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OF THE

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SHROPSHIRE ARCHÆOLOGICAL AND NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY.

ANNUAL MEETING.

THE Annual General Meeting of this Society was held at the Shire-hall, Shrewsbury, on Saturday, February 10th, 1894. The Rev. T. Auden, M.A., F.S.A., Chairman of the Council, presided, and there were also present—The Bishop of Shrewsbury, Mr. Stanley Leighton, M.P., F.S.A., Sir Charles Rouse-Boughton, Bart., Mr. and Mrs. R. Taylor, Dr. Calvert, Mr. W. Phillips, the Misses Hawkins, the Hon. and Rev. G. H. F. Vane, Mr. G. Sandford Corser, Mr. H. W. Adnitt, Mr. T. E. Pickering, M.A., Mr. W. Burson, Mr. H. T. Weyman, Ludlow, Major H. R. H. Southam, Mr. Geo. Griffiths, Rev. W. G. D. Fletcher, F.S.A, Mr. W. Beacall, Mr. A. C. Phillips, Mr. P. F. Timmis and Mr. F. Goyne, Secretary.

THE ANNUAL REPORT.

The CHAIRMAN, in opening the meeting, said he was very glad to be able to address those present as ladies and gentlemen. He believed that was the first occasion on which ladies had honoured the Society with their presence, and they had set an example which he hoped would be followed in future years. (Hear, hear). He then called upon the Secretary to read the Annual Report of the Council, which was as follows :—

The chief work of the Society during the past year has been the issue of the usual *Transactions*, which, it is believed, have fully maintained their interest, and added considerably to the knowledge of the antiquities of the county. A suggestion was made at the last Annual Meeting that the *Transactions* should contain in their pages a larger number of illustrations. The Editorial Committee would gladly carry out this suggestion, if only the county generally would give more adequate support to the Society, and so place more money at their disposal. The Council venture to make a very earnest appeal to all the present members to use their utmost endeavours, by personal influence with their friends, to secure additions to their number. The Council have had under their repeated consideration the issue of the Index to the first series of the *Transactions*, but they have been prevented from taking any definite step by want of funds. It is now proposed to publish it as a separate volume by subscription, as soon as subscribers' names have been received in sufficient numbers to justify the expenditure. The Council have lately given their sanction to the issue under their patronage of a work which they believe will largely assist in spreading an accurate knowledge of one portion of the ancient buildings of the county, viz., "An Architectural Account of the Churches of Shropshire," by D. H. S. Cranage, Esq., B.A., Lecturer on Architecture under the Cambridge University

Extension Scheme. Towards the close of the year a correspondence took place between the Council of your Society and that of the Royal Archæological Institute of Great Britain and Ireland, in reference to the next meeting of that body. Your Council have invited the Institute to repeat during the coming summer the visit to Shrewsbury which they last made in 1855, and that invitation has been cordially accepted. The exact date of the meeting has yet to be fixed, but it is hoped that all who are justly proud of their county will unite in the effort to give a hearty welcome to the members of this important body, so that they may carry away with them pleasant recollections of Shropshire kindness, as well as interest in the many relics of antiquity which it is the good fortune of the county to possess.

(Signed). THOMAS AUDEN, M.A., F.S.A.,
10 Feb., 1894. Chairman of the Council.

The Accounts for the year showed a balance in hand of 6s., but on the General Statement there was a deficiency of £50 9s. 1d.

The CHAIRMAN moved that the Report and Statement of Accounts be printed and circulated among the members of the Society. He said that he should like to take the opportunity of saying that he occupied the position in which he was placed entirely at the wish of the Council of the Society, and not from any wish of his own. It was the unanimous wish of the Council, for reasons which he need not then enter into, that he should take the chair as Chairman of the Council, and he need not say that he was glad to do anything he could for a Society in which he took so much interest. (Hear, hear). In his address he should confine himself to two or three remarks in reference to matters which occurred in the report; he did not intend to touch upon anything archæological, because they had the promise of a paper from their friend Dr. Calvert, and they were expecting it to be an unusually interesting one. (Applause). In the Report the first matter he should like to give emphasis to, was the need the Society had for very much increased support. (Hear, hear). They had a most interesting county—no one could possibly deny that Shropshire stood very high in the objects of archæology and antiquarian interest which it possessed—and yet the Archæological Society was not supported as it ought to be. (Hear, hear.) They had heard from the financial statement that, though the accounts for the year showed a slight balance in hand, there were certain liabilities in the matter of printing, which, of course, were always going on and being added to, and they were liabilities which really left them with a deficiency of something like £50. This was not as it should be, and if they could bring it home to the minds of the people in the county generally he thought it would not continue to be so. He could only hope that every member, whether present that afternoon or who might read an account of the proceedings, would take to heart what was said in the report, namely, that the Council ventured to make the request that all present members would use their utmost endeavours by personal influence with their friends to secure an addition to their numbers. (Hear, hear.) It was the experience of those who took part in the management of the Society, as it was the experience of other

societies, that to send out circulars was very little use indeed, and he therefore ventured to emphasise the remark in the report, that they should try to secure some new members by personal influence among their own circle of friends. (Hear, hear.) He would now just allude to the work on the Churches of Shropshire, which Mr. Cranage was endeavouring to make a valuable antiquarian work, not merely a modern guide book. (Hear, hear.) Mr. Cranage was working very hard at it, and he hoped his efforts would be successful. (Hear, hear.) He knew that at present Mr. Cranage ran considerable danger of being at a loss by the work, but he hoped that the loss would not be unnecessarily severe to him. (Hear, hear.) Then he wanted specially to say a word about that matter which formed the subject of the last paragraph of the report, namely, the visit of the Royal Archæological Institute during next summer. He was a member of the Institute, and at the meeting last summer he was sounded on the subject as to whether Shropshire people would be inclined to receive them. He brought the matter before the Council of their own Society, and they unanimously agreed to invite the members of the Institute to visit Shrewsbury. (Applause.) They were here last in 1855, and he believed that there were very few now taking part in the proceedings connected with their own Council, who took part then; but he was glad to see present one gentleman whose name would be found in the list of those who took part on that occasion—he referred to Sir Charles Rouse-Boughton. (Applause.) He hoped that not only Sir Charles but all others would take a similar kindly interest in the matter when the Institute next visited the town. (Hear, hear.) He need not say a word about the Archæological Institute but might just remark that it was conducted on lines which stood very high indeed in its study of antiquities. It was a peripatetic society, holding meetings in different parts of the country year by year, and it had been generally found that the visit of the Institute to any particular neighbourhood had served to stir up interest in antiquarian matters locally as well as generally. He hoped that would be the result of the visit of the Institute this next summer. (Hear, hear.) The exact date was not yet fixed—that would be a matter for consultation between their own Council and the Council of the Institute sometime during the next few weeks; but it would be either the last week in July or the second week in August. He would only add, in conclusion, that he hoped every member of the Society, and those who at present might not be members, would take an interest in the forthcoming visit, and that the whole county would join heartily in an endeavour to make the visit a success. (Hear, hear.) The Shropshire Society would like to show the Institute every kindness they could, and enable them to carry back pleasant recollections of their visit. The Mayor of Shrewsbury had already expressed his willingness to take his part in connection with the visit, and he hoped that what his Worship had begun as head of the town, would be cordially taken up by others connected more especially with the county. (Applause.)

Mr. Stanley Leighton seconded the motion for the adoption of the report, and in doing so said he could echo, with very great pleasure, the words which the Chairman had used, that they should try to enlarge the basis of the Society—and should endeavour, as far as possible, to obtain a larger number of members. In times past, before there was any Society of that sort in Shropshire, the county had produced some very noted and eminent antiquaries, and they knew that association helped on a work of that kind by the co-operation of as many men as they could prominently call to it; therefore he felt that they ought in a business-like spirit to undertake the task, which need not be at all an unpleasant one, of endeavouring to suggest to their friends who were not members that it would be a good thing if they became members. (Hear, hear.) But in addition to introducing to their own Society as many Shropshire men as they could, it always struck him that a society of that sort, which covered the whole county and which was the oldest antiquarian Society in the county, might also endeavour to incorporate within itself all the other societies which in any way overlapped its area. For instance, there was the old Powysland Club. Powysland covered a large portion of Shropshire. Pengwern Powys, the ancient name of the town, was the capital of Powysland, therefore it appeared to him that they might enter into communication with their friends who were working in the same field and with the same object, to see whether they could not unite with them. (Hear, hear.) Then again there were other subsidiary societies of the same character in Shropshire, such as the Caradoc Club and the Severn Valley Club, organisations which he believed were making an effort to draw to themselves greater support, and it appeared to him that it would be well to see how far they could join them with the Shropshire Society, and thus create one good organisation. (Hear, hear.) He was well aware that it was possible, as in many other societies, to have two classes of members—one class who subscribed for the publications of the Society, and another consisting of ordinary members who did not take in the publications; but at all events it appeared to him that the present was an appropriate time for considering what the Chairman had so well suggested, as to how far they could increase their own membership, and the possibility of uniting or welding together the other kindred societies which covered the same area to a certain extent as their own. (Hear, hear.) He believed that the Council had done all they could do with their powers—their very limited powers—to carry on well and efficiently the work of the Society. (Hear, hear.) He suggested on another occasion that they should endeavour to have more illustrations, because he did not think that an antiquarian volume could be made interesting to the general public, nor indeed did he think it could be made so acceptable to antiquaries themselves, if descriptions were only given without illustrations. (Hear, hear.) He therefore thought that to be a most important part of their work The Council had given a very good reason why they had not been able to carry out these illustrations. He knew that they were very expensive, and

for this reason the Council had not been able to go in for so much of this particular kind of work. Then an Antiquarian Society like their own should always turn its attention to practical objects. He meant such work as this: The Society had turned its attention to the records of Shrewsbury, and was doing a most excellent work in overhauling the old manuscripts which for a great number of years had been in the possession of the Corporation of Shrewsbury. (Hear, hear.) The Society had also done an admirable work at Wroxeter, and he wished to suggest another form of labour which he hoped in the course of time it would take up, and that was the publication of Parish Registers. (Hear, hear.) It was a most interesting, and, as he believed, a most important part of the duty of every Englishman not to let the ancient parochial records fade away from decay or be destroyed by the chances of fire—(hear, hear)—and the only way to preserve them was to have them printed and indexed. (Hear, hear.) Such were some of the great and important works which belonged to societies like theirs, and he hoped that the suggestions which he had made with regard to the co-operation of other societies, and the endeavour to get more members to join their Society, would be taken up in a practical form. (Applause.)

The motion was then put, and carried.

ELECTION OF VICE-PRESIDENT.

The Bishop of Shrewsbury proposed that the Lord Bishop of Lichfield be elected a Vice-President of the Society. (Applause). He remarked that when they took into account how much archæological interest centred in the different churches, it could not be out of place, but, on the other hand, most fitting, that the ecclesiastical head of the diocese should occupy an important and prominent position in connection with the Society. Such a recognition was due to the Bishop officially, and he was sure that, as far as time allowed, his lordship would take a very intelligent and personal interest in all that concerned the work of the Society. (Hear, hear.) As for himself, he was sorry to say that his previous occupations had debarred him from making himself acquainted with archæology or natural history as pursued by their Society; but when time allowed he hoped that he might learn something through his membership with it (Applause). He noticed in the Statement of Accounts that a certain mysterious crypt was alluded to as having consumed some of the funds of the Society, and, he believed, that that crypt, if it had been properly described, would have been mentioned in connection with Old St. Chad's. He had succeeded to the vicarage of the Church, and, therefore, with the churchwardens had also succeeded to the guardianship of that most interesting relic, and he felt a very earnest desire that all that could be done for its preservation should be done. He was aware of the trouble and the pains which the Society had expended upon excavating the place and laying it bare; but he was not at all satisfied with its present condition—it was too easy accessible for any rubbish that might be thrown over the wall, and other-

wise seemed to be in a somewhat unsatisfactory condition. Since he came to Shrewsbury something had been done to secure the pillars and otherwise keep them in order; but he should be glad, and the churchwardens would also, for any suggestions from those competent to advise in order to keep the place in a proper and satisfactory condition. (Hear, hear). With regard to the chancel, that was a work he would like to see undertaken and properly restored, and he had taken the first step towards that end. He felt that a certain amount of responsibility rested upon the vicar and churchwardens of St. Chad's, who had the guardianship of the old relic, to see that it was preserved as much as possible. (Applause).

Mr. G. S. Corser seconded the motion, which was unanimously carried.

APPOINTMENT OF THE COUNCIL.

Sir Charles Rouse-Boughton said he had great pleasure in moving "That the members of the Council, being eligible for re-election, be appointed the Council for the current year." To members of the Society the fitness of these gentlemen must be very apparent whether they looked to the literary work of the journal, which was under their supervision, or to the satisfactory way in which the income of the Society had been expended. The non-workers, who were necessarily in a large majority in every Society, felt in this case the utmost confidence in these gentlemen, and under very great obligation to them for their labours in the public interest. He thought, however, that this ought not to make the other members contented to be only drones in the hive, for he fully agreed with what the Chairman and other speakers had said as to the great benefit that any member might do by procuring new members, thereby increasing the income of the Society, and its consequent power of advancing archæological knowledge. Sir Charles also spoke of the further good that might be done in every district by members exerting themselves to get old buildings preserved, or at least by procuring the cessation of things that tended to their destruction. What their Society, and all societies of a similar class want, was to educate people in subjects that schools have done little to help in. What, for instance, was the old British anarchy? What the Roman soldier was, and did for this country? For how much or little we have to thank, or the reverse, the Saxons or Danes for the part they took in forming our nation? And many similar questions, to which so-called educated people could often give but imperfect answers, and perhaps tell them that their business and the history of the day were more than enough to occupy their time. We were all, however, apt to talk vaguely about ancient history, medi æval history, and modern history, but if we thought of it all these lines were imaginary and artificial. There was but one history, which had grown up from the earliest times, gradually, from century to century, to the present day. We were the product of the past, and the future would be the product of ourselves and all that had gone before.

However different these days of railways, telegraphs, huge manufacturing industries, and democratic institutions might be from the days of Cistercian abbeys and feudal tenures, they were still the outcome of the olden times, and we who had to do our work in their midst could not understand them aright, or act wisely in them, unless we knew something of the events from which they had sprung (Applause). The Chairman alluded, with a view to procuring it a welcome, to the forthcoming visit of the Archæological Institute, and with somewhat cruel kindness pointed out that there was still in the land of the living an ancient survival from their former visit nearly forty years ago; if it had only been in his power to have procured for that antiquarian relic the services of the goddess Hebe there would have been every reason to rejoice at the distinction he had made, and the experience of age might then have been enjoyed without the drawback of its infirmities. (Laughter). Sir Charles then proceeded to explain the valuable course the Institute had taken in first drawing public attention to the Roman remains of Uriconium in 1855, and the good that was derived from the modest operations that were possible at the Congress of the Archæological Association five years later, when that learned member of the latter body, the late Mr. Thomas Wright of Ludlow, by lectures and papers, did so much to interest the public in what had been discovered. (Hear, hear). After some further remarks upon the great value of archæology as the science which enabled us to appreciate the changes that are so constantly, unremittingly, and almost daily taking place, Sir Charles urged strongly the even greater claims societies such as their own and the Caradoc Field Club had on the local public, because they dealt exclusively with the antiquities, the natural history, the botany, and the geology of the great county to which so many of those present had the happiness to belong. (Applause). He was afraid he had wandered a little from the subject of his resolution, to which he now hastened to return, by proposing the re-appointment of the Council.

Mr. R. Taylor, in seconding the resolution, said it would be mere waste of words to attempt to make any addition to what Sir Charles Rouse-Boughton had so ably said. (Hear, hear).

The motion was then put and carried.

ELECTION OF AUDITOR.

Mr. W. Phillips moved "That the best thanks of the meeting be tendered to the auditor, Dr. Calvert, for his services during last year, and that he be appointed for the ensuing year." (Applause). He moved the resolution with great pleasure, because Dr. Calvert was one of their oldest and most active members. (Hear, hear). As a member of the Council he (Mr. Phillips) regretted very much that the accounts were not more satisfactory. He thought the result might be accounted for very largely by the want of earnestness and activity on the part of the members to secure new ones to take the place of those who were dying off. It seemed to him a very obvious

fact that when they were young they studied history as a task, but that when they got something over 50 they studied it as a pleasure. (Hear, hear). It so happened that the bulk of their members were somewhat old men; but they now had an addition of young ones, from whom they expected a good deal, and he hoped they would not be disappointed. (Applause). Before sitting down he desired to say that there was a matter which did not appear in the Report, but which required immediate attention. The custodian at Wroxeter called upon him a short time before the meeting to say that during the recent gale the shed which he used at the ruins had been blown down and required re-building. This, of course, meant further expense, but the shed was most useful to the custodian, and he hoped that steps would be taken to replace it.

Mr. T. E. Pickering seconded the motion, which was heartily carried.

The Chairman subsequently stated that to re-build the shed would entail an expenditure of about £6, and it had been suggested by Sir Charles Rouse-Boughton that a subscription be raised in the room, a suggestion with which he cordially agreed.

The History of the Old School (Free Library) Buildings.

Dr. Calvert was then called upon to read a paper on this interesting subject. He said:—The subject on which I propose, with some diffidence, to offer a few remarks, is one of considerable interest and not free from difficulty. The editors of the *History of Shrewsbury School*, published in 1889, have collected important documentary evidence affecting the original site and buildings. This evidence I shall attempt to supplement from a source which they had not the advantage of consulting at first hand. I refer to the book containing the School Bailiff's accounts from the year 1579.

It can hardly be doubted that Thos. Ashton at the first opening of the School (1562) was obliged to avail himself of such accommodation as could then be secured for school rooms and masters' houses. In his letter to the Bailiff of February 20, 1573, only ten years later, he speaks of the School as then "old and inclining to ruin," and also of "the evil place the School doth stand in," owing to the close neighbourhood of the prisoners.

Let us try to form some idea of the site as it then existed. In order to do this I must refer to the two contemporary maps of which copies are available. They are both a kind of compromise between a plot plan and a bird's eye view. The earlier is probably known to most of us, having been published in 1860 as a fac-simile by the late Mr. John Davies, but I have been unable to ascertain where the original is to be found. The date of it lies probably between 1570 and 1580. We are told that it was made for Lord Burleigh, who was made Baron Burleigh in 1571, and that the words "Ye Welsh Bridge," were written by him. Mr. Phillips has most kindly furnished me with a sketch, enlarged to scale, of that part which includes the School site. Speed's map, of which a copy

hangs in our Museum, can hardly be trusted. It was made in 1610, and represents buildings which were certainly not then erected, while it omits the Library, which was as certainly built in 1595-6.

There is also at p. 79 of the *History of Shrewsbury School* "A Prospect of the Castle and Schools" by Francis Sandford, printed for the Herald's College, and dated 1658. From a comparison of this plate with Burleigh's map it would appear that several buildings must have been removed in the interval of 70 or, perhaps, 80 years. It seems also that 300 years ago the lie of the ground, so to speak, was more level than it is at present from the upper end of School Lane to the foot of the Dana steps. Consequently we are bound to conclude that the incline from that point to and through the double gateway now called Castle Gates was far steeper than it is now. In the south or Burgess Gatehouse was the prison of which Aston complains. This prison the boys would have to pass in order to reach a detached part of the school premises, rented till 1629 from the Corporation, by a passage which led by a turn to the left through the wall between the two gates. From this wall the inner town wall branched, as shown on the map, while the other, or Roushill wall, branched off in the direction of the river along the line of what is now Meadow-place, where on the north side a remnant of the wall is still to be seen in the stone steps at some of the doors. The inner wall, which had already been built upon at intervals, extended along the whole of the western face of Pride Hill, and is still traceable at many points. For defensive purposes the outer or Roushill wall must have taken its place.

The Rotten Lane of the Corporation documents is, no doubt, the School Lane of our day, and the large building on the left at its lower end in Burleigh's map must, I think, be taken to represent roughly and conventionally the original school buildings, including what was then the head-master's house. Of this we know from the School Bailiff's account (1579) that a chamber and study built upon the town wall were repaired, and a chimney for the same built at a cost of £21 9s. 10d. Portions at least of this house, which afterwards became the second master's, still remain, though successive alterations have entirely changed its exterior. A list of the rooms is preserved in an inventory dated 1599. These were: Porche, Great Studdy, Little Studdy, Hall (in which was a table nine yards long), Buttery, Grounde seller, Kitchin, Brewhouse; then upstairs, the Kitchin Chamber, the Little Chamber over the Brewhouse, the Hall Chamber, the Studdy Chamber, the closet; and higher still the cocklofte.

The history of the other masters' houses is, I fear, confined to the list of their rooms and fixtures contained in the same document. It was at the north end of the head-master's house that the beginning of the block of buildings now standing was made. The Library and Gallery (always mentioned together in the building accounts) were begun in 1594, and items of expenditure are entered yearly till 1605, though the main structure seems to have been completed in 1596. The Gallery, which no longer exists, was part of an arrangement well-

known in connexion with college architecture. At Cambridge instances are to be seen at St. John's and Queen's Colleges. It was a covered passage from the north-east of the head-master's house leading into the Library, and the only trace of it now visible is a portion of an opening which has been stopped with brickwork built in between and behind the stone plllars of original balustrade. I remember another such bricked-up opening nearer the corner of the Library in a portion of wall which has been done away with since the Corporation took over the site.

The foundations of the Library must have been very close to the west tower of the Burgess gate, of which I think some traces are still to be seen in the narrow open space under the north front. The building consisted of a ground cellar or basement, a ground floor, and two floors over. The ground floor was converted between 1608 and 1617 into the School Chapel. No mention of this conversion occurs, in fact the Chapel is only mentioned twice, the entries recording two payments of £10 each. Nor is any mention made of the tower, though from 1608 to 1620 several sums were spent upon a bell and a clock. Hitherto a payment had been regularly made to the clerk of St. Mary's for ringing one of the church bells daily at 11 a.m. and 5 p.m. Perhaps the tower was first thought of when the Chapel arrangement was decided on, as an outside staircase would then be required for the Library. Whether the Gallery remained open into the Chapel is uncertain. At the south-west end of the building traces remain on the outer and inner walls of a doorway from which a stair may have led down to the Gallery. Above the Library were chambers lighted by three windows on each side, and one at each end, the roof being arranged in eight gables. The Library was also lighted from the sides and ends; and the book-cases, no doubt, stood at right angles to the sides. When the upper chambers and roof were removed in 1815, and replaced by the parapet, the end windows were enlarged and re-arranged in a late Perpendicular style. The side windows were at a later date blocked up as the additional weight of the new parapet was thought to threaten danger to the walls.

The account of 1595, in which year alone the details of cost are given, includes the following items :—

9,500 of slate at 13s. 4d. the 1,000.

40 oak trees at 4s. 6d. a tree.

4 choice trees for somers, ready squared after 5s. the tun and contained 8 tuns & odd

Foundation stones 241 loads

Grinsell stone 208 loads.

To Jo. Richmond & Tho. Tunstall, masons, getting working and setting 4,138 foote of Ashler at 1¾d. and ½ a farthing the foot

148 lights of window work at 2s. 8d. the light

119 foot of water-table at 2½d. the foot

242 fo. 3 in. cornishe at 4d. the foot

331 yds. 5 fo. 110 in. & odd of brickwork, at 19½d. & ½ a farthing the yard.

The total for the year is £224 14s. 2½d. Other disbursements are mentioned in the accounts, but there are no more details, and the sums are entered as paid out to the school bailiff for reparations or to the head-master for books and furniture. The first sermon in the Chapel was preached in 1617, and up to that time the old school building had been allowed to stand, though the charges for repairs seem to have been very heavy.

In 1620 and the two following years the charges for building all relate to the Country School House at Grinshill, but from January 30, 1625-6, to March 1, 1632-3, money was being continually paid out in separate sums of £10 for defraying the reparations of the School House. The total cannot be far short of £1,200. From occasional entries of money received for timber sold, which in 1628 amounted to £27, it seems that the new work was carried out by degrees, and that the old houses and schoolrooms were taken down as soon as they could be spared.

In 1633 the buildings were in use, and by the year 1634 the block of buildings as they now stand was, we may conclude, completed. Of the alteration of 1815 I have already spoken. Dr. Butler, no doubt, was the prime mover in this work, which was before long succeeded by the stoppage of the thoroughfare of School Lane by the removal of the gateway and the continuation of the school garden wall, the upper stones of which have now been transferred to the new site at Kingsland.

The absence of particulars as to material, plan, and expenditure is to me not a little disappointing. I have, however, found one entry, which should not be omitted, as it disposes of a theory I have heard advanced, that the south window of the upper School was removed to its present place from some ecclesiastical building. In 1629 there is entered, as received from Edward Jones, Esq. (who was at the time steward of the borough) 20s. "which he gave towards making the ende windowe in the highest school."

It was well that these buildings had not been further delayed, for after the resignation of John Meighen, who had held the head-mastership for 53 years, disputes arose as to the nomination of his successor between the Bailiffs and St. John's College, which might have led to a suspension of the works, which, had the delay been prolonged, would have had small chance of being carried out during the troubles which came to a head eight years later.

That no such untoward result occurred is owing, I am convinced, to the energy and persevering activity of John Meighen, who had passed his eightieth year before he retired. We must, I think, regard him as indeed a second founder, and as having carried out Thomas Ashton's designs as few others could have succeeded in doing. To anyone who has seen as much of the School accounts as I have this conclusion is inevitable, and it is not unreasonable to suppose that in his last four years he would look with well-earned satisfaction upon the change which had come over the "evil place," of which Ashton spoke so despondently, and on the School buildings, no longer old and ruinous,

which he had watched from their very beginning, forty years before.

Note on the word gallery (J. Willis Clark), vol. iii., p. 338, *Architectural History of Camb. University.*

It appears from the passages collected by Ducange, s.v. "galleria," that the word was used through the middle ages, for a long corridor, "ambulacrum" or deambulatory; as, for example: "In quodam superiori ambulacro sive quadam superiori Galeria ex parte australi œdium sive hospitii illustrissimi Pr. et dni nostri, dni Henrici VIII." Rymer XIV., 390, Col., ed. 1704-35. "Galilæa" or Galilea, according to the same authority, s.v. "galilæa," was sometimes employed to signify the ambulacrum of a cloister. "Allorium" or "alura" has the same general sense.

Lydgate describing the rebuilding of Troy by Priam. Chap. xi (Ed. 1555), seems in the following lines to mean a vaulted passage under the houses of a street—

"Fresh alures with lusty hye pynacles,
And mounstryng outward costly tabernacles,
Vauted above lyke to reclinatoryes,
That called were deambulatoryes.
Men to walke togithers twaine and twaine,
To kepe them drye when it happed to rayne,
Or them to save fro tempest winde or thundre,
If that them lyst shroude them safe thereunder."

Thus "galilæa," "galeria," "alura" appear to be different forms of the same word, although each has some special application.

The CHAIRMAN moved a cordial vote of thanks to Dr. Calvert for the interesting paper which he had read.

The Rev. W. G. D. FLETCHER seconded the motion, which was unanimously carried.

Dr. CALVERT, in reply, said if he had been able to communicate any fresh information to the members of the Society he should feel fully rewarded for his trouble.

The meeting then terminated.

THE ANNUAL EXCURSION.

THE Annual Excursion of the Shropshire Archæological and Natural History Society took place on Wednesday, August 1st, 1894, Clun, Offa's Dyke, Gaer Ditches, and other places of interest in the Clun district being visited. By the invitation of the Society several members of the Royal Archæological Institute, which had concluded its meetings on the previous day, joined the excursion. The excursionists left Shrewsbury in a saloon carriage attached to the 10-5 train for Knighton. The party included—The Rev. T. Auden, F.S.A., and Miss Auden, Mr., Mrs, and Miss Adnitt, Mr. and Miss Corser, Mr. D. H. S. Cranage, Mr. Dovaston, the Rev. C. H. Drinkwater, Miss Hawkins, Mr. Robert Taylor, Mrs. and Miss Taylor, Mr. S. C. Southam, the Rev. W. G. D. Fletcher, F.S.A., Mr. Mill Stephenson, F.S.A., London, Mr. and Master Bach, Norwich, the Rev. Dr. Cresswell,

Northrepps Rectory, Mr. Emanuel Green, F.S.A., London, Mr. James Hilton, F.S.A., London, Mr. Horsborough, London, Mr. Martin, London, Mr. Mottram, Norwich, Mr. Ryley, London, Mr. R. G. Rice, F.S.A., London, the Rev. E. H. Goddard, Clyffe-Pypard Vicarage, Mr. F. Goyne, secretary, Mr. G. Luff, &c.

The party went by train to Knighton Station, where carriages met them, and they drove for some distance along the valley that there separates England and Wales. A halt was made at Selley Hall to walk up to a finely-preserved portion of Offa's Dyke, which there runs along the crest of the hills. The Rev. T. Auden, chairman of the Society, gave a short address on the dyke, agreeing with Professor McKenny Hughes in the opinion that the line of earthworks is considerably earlier than Offa's time. From Selley the drive was continued to Clun, where the party were met by the vicar, the Rev. Prebendary Warner, who acted as guide to the castle, hospital, and church. Very little of architectural interest remains of the border stronghold of the Earls of Arundel, which was placed among earthworks of an earlier period. The hospital of Holy Trinity was founded in 1614 by Henry Howard, Earl of Northampton, for twelve poor men and a warden in holy orders, who reads prayers twice in the hospital chapel on week days, and goes with them on Sundays to the parish church. The Norfolk Hospital at Greenwich is of the same foundation. The church, dedicated to St. George, is a Norman building, restored in 1877 by Mr. Street from a state of almost ruin. It contains a curious canopy on the roof of the east end, and a seventeenth century brass inscription to the memory of one of the Howard family. The lych gate is a good example of seventeenth century timber work. In the Vicarage garden Mr. Warner showed the party the two old silver maces of the borough, borrowed for the occasion from the private hands in which they now are. They are small maces of simple design of an early pattern. The royal arms are those of England and France, putting them back to at least the time of Elizabeth, and they are possibly older. It is to be hoped that means may be found of redeeming these maces from their present position of private property, which may easily become lost to the old borough. After a pleasant cup of tea by Mr. Warner's kind hospitality, the party proceeded on their way to Bucknell station. The road from Clun to Bucknell station, like that from Knighton to Clun, passes through what was once debatable ground sprinkled with earthworks, and full of traditions of sanguinary battles. The Honour of Clun was an independent jurisdiction till the time of Henry VIII., and is still different in many ways from the neighbouring parts of Salop. On Pen-y-Wern Hill, above Clun, traces of a considerable neolithic settlement have been discovered by Mr. Luff, and several stone implements have been found on the Black Hill. At Chapel Lawn the road passes under the shadow of Caer Caradoc—or Gaer Ditches as it is sometimes called, to distinguish from the other hills bearing the name of Caractacus—a fine encampment. This the party were to have climbed,

but, time not permitting, Mr. Luff read at Bucknell the following paper that was intended to have been read on the summit, on

PENYWERN HILL, AND ITS OLD-TIME ASSOCIATIONS.

If I can only find fitting words I am sure I shall be able, even in the few minutes at my disposal, to interest you in this charming locality, for besides the beauty of the scenery our eyes are drinking in, and the geological and botanical phenomena we cannot now enter upon, the spot upon which you stand and the whole of this neighbourhood is haunted ground—haunted with the memorials and transmitted influence of brave men who have fought and lived and died hereabout for perhaps 30,000 years. In my humble opinion these dear old hills are richer in historic and pre-historic association than almost any other. Upon their summits and down in the valleys between them have taken place scenes and events which have helped largely to make of England the nation she now is.

The hill upon which we stand is a portion of the highest and most considerable range of mountains hereabouts, extending south of the river Clun from Black Hill for a distance of ten miles directly westwards up to and communicating with Kerry Hill, and so with the central transverse range of Welsh mountains. We stand here at a height of about 1,200 feet above sea level, and by following the road on the top of the ridge we gradually reach a height of 1,300 and 1,400, and, as we enter Wales, 1,500 feet.

This ridge of hills has been of great importance from the earliest times. Along it are scattered a unique collection of boulders from the Plynlimon district, some of them many tons in weight, that were stranded here at the close of the glacial epoch, when the ice retreated from these hill tops.

When the Neoliths in the Later Stone Age came to erect their gilgals and sun temples, they found the means ready to hand in these stones, and utilised them in the construction of the stone circle that lies partly buried in yonder copse. It is about 30 yards in diameter, and, as usual, rather oval than round. My dear old friend, the late Mr. Richard Haynes, a very intelligent and observant man, who first drew my attention to it, remembered it before the trees were planted, and when the stones were distinctly to be seen. He spoke of it as a British cromlech, but I never heard or found any trace of a burial. At a distance of 120 yards toward the south-east is an overthrown obelisk which suggests sun observation or worship, or probably both, in connection with the circle. The stone, like other boulders near, is a Silurian grit from the neighbourhood of Rhayader—as the crow flies, 23 miles over those mountains and deep valleys. It is ten feet long, and weighs, I calculate, about three tons. It has apparently been planted in the ground to a depth of three feet, and remained so for a very long period. I believe it lies where it stood; and Mr. Lewis of Islington agrees with me in thinking it was originally intended to mark the point of *lowest* sunrise as seen from the circle.

I would ask you to mark how from this point the valleys and lowlands are below out of sight, and only hill-top and sky are in view, as though these primitive men when engaged in worship desired to lose all mundane scenes and to fix their minds upon the object of their adoration above.

All along these hills, as far as to the Welsh border, judging from their remains, a dense population must have existed from the Early Neolithic to the Iron Age. I find no admixture of bronze amongst the relics, and I judge that the Roman invasion we shall discuss shortly put an end to the continued occupation of the Neolithic people.

Yonder, upon Rock Hill, was the great centre of habitation. There, where they sat and worked, early manufacturers of flint and stone implements left behind chippings by the thousand, flint cores from which no more could be flaked, partially made or broken arrow-heads, &c., though, gathered from all about, I have arrow-heads of various degrees of excellence of workmanship, thumb-flints, scrapes, spindle whorls, pottery, &c. From the number of spindle-whorls found I judge that flax was grown, and these hill-tops and slopes cultivated in very early times. Even to a height of 1,500 feet farmers tell me there is a great depth of the finest soil. Splendid crops of oats now grow at the highest levels, but wheat ripens badly.

If you will glance at the small map I have prepared, you will see that this high ridge overlooking and projecting into the lower lands eastward, with its network of hill fortresses in front and flanks, and the still higher mountain land behind was a position admirably adapted for military attack or defence, and would be desperately held to the last by so brave and resolute a people as the Silurian (or Neolithic) Britons. To this position I think there is little doubt, the Roman General, Ostorious, laid as desperate siege from Norton Camp behind Craven Arms. It was the success of this siege (or campaign), I hold, which led to the defeat of the Britons, who were ruled by Caractacus.

Mr. Auden fixes the site of the final battle in that campaign at The Breidden, and I don't know that anything I am about to say need be taken as differing from so good an authority on Salopian archæology, but I wish you to examine the ground we are about to pass over in the light of the facts I present, and you will be able to judge for yourselves whether any new light has been thrown on an interesting chapter in English history.

We Clun people have hitherto taken the Gaer Ditches as the place described by Tacitus, though we never find a trace of a stone rampart such as would in itself present a formidable obstacle to the approach of the Romans. In other particulars Chapel Lawn answers to the description. The river at the foot of the mountain that was "dangerous to be forded" is shrunk now to a narrow brook, but we are not without indications that 2,000 years ago much more water lay in all these valleys. As we passed to-day from Selly to Treverward, we crossed the head of the valley leading down to Chapel Lawn, and there we saw a flat piece

of meadow land, said to be the drained bed of an ancient lake. The brook I have mentioned, which once carried off the superfluous water from this lake, is now called Red Lake, and tradition says it once ran blood three days. In flood time it is still dangerous to man or beast. The river Clun I know in Palæolithic times ran (where Clun now is) 200 feet higher, and at least a mile wider than at present. I found the Upper Level Drift close here at the foot of Rock Hill.

In yonder beautiful dingle—The Tongues—where the Old Red Sandstone is faulted down against the Ludlow rock, is a pretty little waterfall, Mr. Haynes named Break-its-neck Water. There are really three falls. The third or lowest is twelve feet in depth, it has cut its way 40 feet back into the rock, and taken a slice out of the hill side 18 to 22 feet wide. A sudden change seems to have taken place in the drainage from above—I should judge in historical times. The width of the stream has suddenly shrunk from 18 feet to a tiny driblet at this time of the year. Since the great change a little groove, not two inches in average depth, has been cut in the perpendicular face of the cliff.

Or again, higher up the valley at Little Hall, Mr. Hulme, when putting down a drain, came across the upper stone of a British quern which he gave to me. This is not the only quern found at Clun. I have one from Mr. Law's farm we have just passed. I am not so positive as to its antiquity, but have no reason to put it to a much later date, and I infer that wheat was cultivated here then as now. Mr. Auden tells us that before the Romans came south. Shropshire was all forest, but I know he will allow that this south-west corner of the county enjoyed an exceptional civilization from very early times. The Little Hall quern was buried several feet in clay, and at a point some distance from the present house, and considerably higher. Near to were other remains, as though the original homestead had stood at that more elevated spot. My opinion is that the homestead was destroyed, and the quern lost in the ruins, when the victorious Romans swept up the valley.

I might give other instances pointing to the probability of much water lying at one time in these valleys.

Tacitus tells us that when Caractacus had "resolved to put all to the hazard of a battle" with the Romans, "he chose a place against which it was difficult to advance, and from which it was as difficult to retreat, every way incommodious to our army, and every way favourable to his own." You are now passing over the ground which I think was the scene of the hottest contest, and I ask you to judge how the words of the historian apply to it.

You will see the "ridges of hills" mentioned flanking all the valley approaches to Clun, spreading around and converging like the ribs of a fan upon Rock Hill, and each crowned with its own frowning earthwork. An invading army once defeated and entangled in either of the deep marshy valleys must have been doomed to almost certain destruction.

From the vast Norton Camp, which I have no doubt was the base of the Roman operations, Ostorius had command of the whole Craven Arms and Knighton valleys, and we may well suppose would make feints of attacking the British position, sometimes at Stretton and sometimes at Knighton. Really he seems to have first taken Coxwall Knoll, and then in force stormed the Gaer Ditches. A pretty tradition exists with respect to the Lurkenhope trenches above Knighton, which I don't vouch for. That is, that the Britons expected and hoped to entice their enemy up that way through the narrow Garn Gap where he would be exposed to attack from the heights on all sides, and there lurked in hope.

The Romans having obtained possession of the Gaer Ditches and Hodre Hill opposite would be able to rush up here to Penywern, and then the whole of this long "ridge of mountains" would be in their possession. Bury Ditches turned, the Vron at Newcastle and any other camp overlooked, the way would lie open direct into Wales, and the small Roman camp at Caer Den Ring on Clun Forest would contain a garrison sufficient to hold the hill tribes in check while the settlement of the country was effected.

I suggest then that in this way the Severn Valley was gained and The Breidden approached, and also that Tacitus, writing from hearsay, condensed into the short narrative of a single battle the events of a whole campaign, and that the last battle in that campaign was fought in the land of the Ordovices because Caractacus had little choice in the matter. Driven out of his stronghold and away from his own people in South Wales, when defeated at The Breidden he perforce fled to the North, and the situation was such that but few fugitives could have escaped. (Applause).

The Rev. T. Auden proposed a vote of thanks to Mr. Luff for his excellent paper.

This was seconded by Mr. Green, of the Royal Archæological Institute, who said they were accustomed in England to be rather insular in their archæology, and talked of one part of England as if there was no other part. But he thought there was no part of England with such charming scenery as that to be found in the country they had visited that day. Clun was a most picturesque place, and he should like very much to know more of its history. He then thanked the members of the Society, on behalf of the Institute, for their kind invitation to accompany them to Clun.

The Rev. T. Auden said it had been a sincere pleasure to the members of the Society to have the distinguished visitors with them.

Votes of thanks were accorded to Mr. F. Goyne, the secretary, for the excellent arrangements made, and to the Rev. T. Auden.

The excursionists then proceeded to the railway station, and arrived at Shrewsbury about ten o'clock.

MR. LANGE'S LECTURE.

On Tuesday, April 10th, 1894, a Lecture-Entertainment on Norway, the land of the midnight sun, illustrated by 120 limelight views, was given by Mr. Paul Lange, and the proceeds were devoted to the illustration of the *Transactions*. Through the kindness of Mr. S. C. Southam and his brother, who most generously arranged the lecture, the sum of £15 5s. was handed over to the Society for this purpose.

VISIT OF THE ROYAL ARCHÆOLOGICAL INSTITUTE TO SHREWSBURY.

The Annual Meeting of the Royal Archæological Institute of Great Britain and Ireland was held at Shrewsbury from Tuesday, July 24th, to Wednesday, August 1st, 1894, under the presidency of Sir Henry H. Howorth, K.C.I.E., D.C.L., M.P., F.R.S., F.S.A. This was the second visit paid by the Institute to Shrewsbury, the former visit having taken place in 1855. Amongst the distinguished visitors who honoured Shrewsbury with their presence were the Right Hon. Viscount Dillon, V.P.S.A., President of the Institute, Mr. J. T. Micklethwaite, F.S.A. Vice-President, Mr. James Hilton, F.S.A., Hon. Treasurer, Mr. Emanuel Green, F.S.A., Hon. Director, Mr. C. J. Ferguson, F.S.A., Mr. G. E. Fox, F.S.A., Mr. W. H. St. John Hope, M.A., Sec. S.A., Members of the Committee, Mr. Mill Stephenson, B.A., F.S.A., Hon. Secretary, Mr. Chancellor Ferguson, F.S.A., Sir Stuart Knill, Mr. Baylis, Q.C., the Rev. Sir Talbot Baker, Professor E. C. Clarke, the Hon. Mr. Justice Pinhey, Very Rev. F. Hirst, Mr. W. T. Bensley, LL.D., Rev. Dr. Cox, F.S.A., Sir C. H. Rouse-Boughton, Bart., Mr. Stanley Leighton, M.P., F.S.A., Mr. A. Sparrow, F.S.A., Mr. A. Ridley Bax, F.S.A., Mr. Leland L. Duncan, F.S.A., Rev. Dr. Cresswell, Rev. W. F. Creeny, F.S.A., Mr. R. G. Rice, F.S.A., &c., &c.

The following is an epitome of the proceedings on the several days.

Tuesday, July 24th.—The Mayor (Mr. W. L. Browne) received the Institute at 12 o'clock, and Sir Henry Howorth delivered his presidential address. At 2 o'clock the town of Shrewsbury was visited under the guidance of the Ven. Archdeacon Lloyd, the places visited being St. Mary's Church, the Castle, the Old School, Butcher Row, St. Julian's Church, Old S. Chad's Crypt, the Square, the Town Walls and Tower, Grey Friars, the Abbey Church and Frater Pulpit, the White Hall, and the Wyle Cop. At 8 30 p.m. the Architectural Section met in the Music Hall, under the presidency of Mr. C. J. Ferguson, F.S.A, and papers were read by Mr. W. H. St. John Hope, M.A., Sec. S.A., on "Monastic Arrangements," and by Mr. J. T. Micklethwaite, F.S.A., on "Monastic Life."

Wednesday, July 25th.—The following places were visited under the guidance of the Rev. T. Auden, F.S.A. :—Pitchford Hall and

Church, Acton Burnell Church, Castle and Parliament House, Langley Chapel and Manor House, and Condover Church and Hall. At 8 30 p.m. the Antiquarian Section met in the Music Hall, under the presidency of Mr. Stanley Leighton, F.S.A., who delivered an able address on "Historic Shropshire," and Mr. Mill Stephenson, F.S.A., read a paper on "The Monumental Brasses of Shropshire," illustrated by rubbings of most of the brasses remaining in the county.

THURSDAY, July 26th.—The places visited were Tong Church, which was described by Mr. George Griffiths, and Lilleshall Abbey, whose buildings were described by Mr. W. H. St. John Hope, M.A., Secretary of the Society of Antiquaries. In the evening the Mayor gave a Conversazione in the Music Hall to the members of the Institute and many local friends, and Mr. W. H. St. John Hope read a paper on "The Maces of Shrewsbury and other Shropshire Boroughs." The maces and insignia of the various boroughs of the county being exhibited in the room.

FRIDAY, July 27th.—The Historical Section met at 11 o'clock, under the presidency of the Rev. J. Charles Cox, LL.D., F.S.A., who read a paper on "The Mining Operations and Metallurgy of the Romans in England and Wales." The Rev. W. G. D. Fletcher, F.S.A., read a paper on "The Municipal Records of Shrewsbury," and exhibited several of the most important documents belonging to the Corporation. In the afternoon, the party visited High Ercall Church and Hall, which were described by the Hon. and Rev. G. H. F. Vane, M.A., and Haughmond Abbey, which was described by Mr. W. H. St. John Hope, M.A., Sec. S.A.

SATURDAY, July 28th.—The Annual Business Meeting of the Institute was held in the morning. In the afternoon the ruins of the Romano-British City of Uriconium (Wroxeter) were visited, and described by Mr. G. E. Fox, F.S.A., and Wroxeter Church, which was described by the Rev. R. Steavenson, M.A., and Mr. D. H. S. Cranage.

MONDAY, July 30th.—Ludlow was visited, the Church being described by the Rev. Prebendary Clayton, M.A., and the Castle by Mr. W. C. Tyrrell; and Stokesay Castle and Church, which were described by the Rev. J. D. La Touche, M.A. In the evening, the concluding meeting of the Institute was held in the Music Hall.

TUESDAY, July 31st.—Buildwas Abbey and Wenlock Priory were visited, under the guidance of Mr. W. H. St. John Hope, M.A., Sec. S.A; and Wenlock Church, which was described by the Rev. F. R. Ellis.

On WEDNESDAY, August 1st, several members of the Institute joined the Annual Excursion of the Shropshire Archæological and Natural History Society to Clun and the neighbourhood.

LIST OF MEMBERS, 1894.

Adnitt, Mr. H W., Shrewsbury
Allen, Very Rev. Canon, Belmont, Shrewsbury
Auden, Rev. T., M.A., F.S.A., Condover Vicarage, Shrewsbury

Bradford, Right Hon. Earl of, Lord Lieutenant of Shropshire *(President)*
Brownlow, Right Hon. Earl, Belton, Grantham
Barnard, Right Hon. Lord, Raby Castle, Durham
Babington, C. C., Esq., F.S.A., F.R.S , 5, Brookside, Cambridge
Baldwyn-Childe, Rev. Prebendary, M.A., J.P., Kyre Park, Tenbury
Barnes, Thos., Esq., The Quinta, Chirk
Barnes, Col. J. R., J.P., Brookside, Chirk
Barton, Rev. J., M.A., Hadley Vicarage, Wellington, Salop
Beacall, W., Esq., J.P., Sunfield, Shrewsbury
Benthall, E., Esq.,Glantwrch, Ystalyfera, Swansea Vale
Beresford, Robert de la Poer, Esq., M.D., Oswestry
Bidlake, G., Esq., Wellington, Salop
Borough, J. C. Burton, Esq., B.A., D.L., J P., Chetwynd Park, Newport, Salop
Bowdler, W., Esq., Penybont, Shrewsbury
Bridgeman, The Hon. and Rev. Canon, M.A., J.P., The Hall, Wigan
Bridgeman, The Hon. and Rev. J., M.A., J.P., Weston-under-Lizard, Shifnal
Browne, W. Lyon, Esq., Ashley House, Shrewsbury
Bulkeley-Owen, Rev. T. M., B.A., J.P., Tedsmore Hall, West Felton
Burd, Rev. Prebendary, M.A., Chirbury Vicarage, Salop
Burson, Mr. W., Whitehall Street, Shrewsbury
Burton, Rev. R. Lingen, Little Aston Vicarage, Sutton Coldfield, Birmingham
Burton, E. R. Lingen, Esq., Whitton Hall, Westbury

Calcott, John, Esq., Oakley Street, Shrewsbury
Calvert, E., Esq., LL.D., Kingsland, Shrewsbury
Chance, A. F. Esq., M.A., The Schools, Shrewsbury
Cholmondeley, Rev. R. H., M.A., Hodnet Rectory
Churchill, Rev. C. J. S., M.A,, The Schools, Shrewsbury
Clark, G. T., Esq., F.S.A., Talygarn, Llantrissant, Pontyclown, R.S.O.
Clarke, Rev. J. H. Courtney, Tong Vicarage, Shifnal
Clay, J. Cecil, Esq., Market Drayton
Clayton, Rev. Prebendary, M.A., The Rectory, Ludlow
Clowes, Rev. Albert, M.A., Clee S. Margaret, Bromfield, Salop

Cock, Alfred, Esq., Q.C., 8, Kensington Park Gardens, W.
Cock, Jas., Esq., Kingsland, Shrewsbury
Colvill, J. C., Esq., Shrewsbury
Colville, H. K., Esq., Bellaport, Market Drayton
Corbet, Sir W. O., Bart., Acton Reynald, Shrewsbury
Corfield, Lieut.-Col. F. Channer, J.P., Ormonde Fields, Codnor, Derby
Corser, C. Sandford, Esq., Shrewsbury
Cortissos, C., Esq., Shrewsbury
Cranage, D. H. S., Esq., M.A., Wellington, Salop
Corbett, John, Esq., M.P., Impney, Droitwich

Davis, Rev. J., The College, Cleobury Mortimer
Dovaston, Adolphus, Esq., Twyford, Sunnyside Road, Ealing, London, W.
Dovaston, J, Esq., West Felton
Drinkwater, Rev. C. H., M.A., St. George's Vicarage, Shrewsbury
Duignan, W. H., Esq., St. Ronans, Walsall

Egerton, Rev. Canon, M.A., Middle Rectory, Shrewsbury
Egerton, Rev. W. H., M.A., The Rectory, Whitchurch, Salop
Eyton, T. Slaney, Esq, D.L., J.P., Walford Hall, Baschurch

Feilden, Rev. O. M., M.A., Frankton Rectory, Oswestry
Fletcher, Rev. W. G. Dimock, M.A., F.S.A., St. Michael's Vicarage, Shrewsbury
Foley, P. H., Esq., M.A., F.S.A., Prestwood, Stourbridge, Worcestershire
Forrey, Chas., Esq., Ludlow, Salop
Fisher, Ed., Esq., F.S.A. Scot., Abbotsbury, Newton Abbot

George, A. Brooke, Esq., Dodington, Whitchurch, Salop
Gill, Arthur, Esq., Shrewsbury
Gough, Frede. H., Esq., Chilton Moor Vicarage, Fence Houses, Durham
Greene, H. D., Esq., Q.C., M.P., The Grove, Craven Arms
Gregory, G. W., Esq., Wyle Cop, Shrewsbury
Griffin, Harcourt, Esq., J.P., Pell Wall, Market Drayton
Griffiths, George, Esq., Weston, Shifnal
Guildhall Library, London, E.C.—C. Welch, Esq.
Greensill, Frank, Esq., 4, Windsor Terrace, Douglas, Isle of Man

Harlech, Right Hon. Lord, Brogyntyn, Oswestry
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SHROPSHIRE ARCHÆOLOGICAL AND NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY.

Statement of Account for the year ending December 31st, 1893.

RECEIPTS.

	£	s.	d.
To Balance in hand on Crypt Account	4	8	1
,, Members' Subscriptions	181	11	0
,, Surplus from Annual Excursion	1	9	10
	£187	8	11

EXPENDITURE.

	£	s.	d.
By Balance due to Treasurer Jan. 1st, 1893, on General Account	8	14	8
,, Messrs. Woodall, Minshall, and Co., part payment for printing *Transactions*	100	0	0
,, Messrs. Adnitt & Naunton, part payment of Account	13	9	3
,, British Record Society, printing Lichfield Wills ...	30	0	0
,, Secretary's Salary...	5	0	0
,, Rent, Rates, and Tithe, Wroxeter	4	3	6
,, Subscription to Congress of Archæological Societies (2 years)	2	0	0
,, Postage Stamps, General Correspondence, Calling Meetings, Collecting Subscriptions, &c.	2	15	0
,, Posting *Transactions* to Members and Carriage of Parcels	5	9	9
,, Rev. W. G. D. Fletcher, Postages and Railway Carriage of Parcels, &c.	1	0	0
,, Commission...	9	1	6
,, Harrison and Son	0	3	9
,, Bowdler and Co., Work at Crypt	0	16	0
,, Williams and Son ,, ,, ...	4	9	6
,, Balance in hands of Treasurers...	0	6	0
	£187	8	11

Feb. 8th, 1894. Examined and found correct,

(Signed). E. CALVERT,

Auditor.

ON SOME SHROPSHIRE PLACE-NAMES.

By W. H. DUIGNAN.

The analysis of place-names has made great progress during the last twenty years. The publications of Anglo-Saxon and Early English Charters and of the Early English Text, Philological, and English Dialect Societies have opened to the student new fields of information, and made local etymology a far more scientific enquiry than it formerly was.

Professor Skeat says:—"Our earlier writers had no means of ascertaining principles that are now well established, and instead of proceeding by rule had to go blindly by guesswork." . . . "Before attempting an etymology, ascertain the earliest form and use of the word; . . . observe history and chronology; observe phonetic laws." The greatest assistance is to be obtained from Anglo-Saxon charters; next in value is Domesday, wonderfully accurate considering its mode of compilation, but not so reliable as a local twelfth or thirteenth century charter. Norman clerks writing from sound, or in a language they imperfectly understood, were very liable to error.

The importance of the meaning of place-names cannot be questioned. It throws light upon local and national history, and social life, and gives interest to the locality.

It is remarkable at what an early period, and how thoroughly, the Saxons appear to have occupied Shropshire. Except on the border, Welsh names have been almost exterminated; the Romans have left, in names, no trace of their occupation, and Norman etymons are rare. The county seems to have been possessed by a hardworking unimaginative race, who gave the simplest

names to their farms or villages. Poetic or romantic etymologies from Anglo-Saxon roots may always be distrusted. It is otherwise in Ireland and the Highlands, where poetry and history are important and interesting factors.

The majority of place-names are derived from personal names, and, in construing them, we must remember that nick-names, pet-names, and short names were as common a thousand years ago as in the last century.

Some of my derivations are, doubtless, open to criticism or correction, though I have submitted all of them to an accomplished friend, Mr. W. H. Stevenson, the translator and editor of the "Records of the Borough of Nottingham." Of some of the places dealt with I have no personal or historic knowledge, and local antiquaries may be able to give better roots; but as the way to victory sometimes lies through defeat, so the way to truth often lies through error.

I am much indebted to Eyton for the ancient names. He only occasionally deals with etymology, and his opinions are always entitled to respect; but I have not hesitated to disregard or challenge them where I have thought them wrong. He wrote forty years ago, and sources of knowledge are open to us which were closed to him.

Abbreviations.—A.S., Anglo-Saxon; O.E., Old English—(Synonyms); M. E., Middle English; W., Welsh; A.S.C., Anglo-Saxon Chronicle; D., Domesday; Eyton, Eyton's *Antiquities of Shropshire.*

Acton.—The root of all Actons is *Ache-tune, Ac-tune,* or similar forms, from the O. E. *Ac-tune*=Oak-town. Most of them now have suffixes from their early lords; Acton Pigot, from the Picots or Pichots; Acton Reynald, from the Reyners; Acton Scott, from the Scots or Escots; Acton Burnell, from the Burnells.

Albright-Lee, near Shrewsbury, in D. is *Etbretelie;* in 1195, *Edbricteleg;* in 1272, *Adbrihtleye;* probably from the O. E. personal name *Eadbriht.* The terminals *lie, leg, leye,* doubtless, represent O. E. *leah* or *lea,* open pasture or untilled land, giving us "Eadbriht's pasture."

ALBRIGHTON.—There are several Albrightons in Salop, and all have their roots in personal names—not always the same. Monks Albrighton, near Shrewsbury, is in D. *Etbritone;* in the 12th century, *Adbrichtone;* and in the 13th century, *Adbricton, Edbricton,* and *Adbricton-Monachorum.* These forms probably represent an O. E. personal name *Ealdbricht* or *Eadbriht.* "Monks" has been added (for distinction) because it belonged of old time to Shrewsbury Abbey.

ALBRIGHTON or ALBRIGHT HUSSEY is in D. *Abretone* and *Etbretone;* in the 12th century it was *Adbrighton-Husey* and *Adbrighton-Hussey;* in the 13th century *Adbryghton* and *Edbrichton.* This is certainly from a personal name, such as *Ælfbriht.* Miss Jackson (*Shropshire Word Book,* 515) says the name is locally pronounced "Aiberton," which is curiously like the D. "Abretone." The Hosé, Husé, or Hussey family held the manor from about 1165 for four centuries.

ALBRIGHTON, near Tong, in D. is *Albricstone;* in 1232, *Albrihton.* This certainly represents an O. E. personal name *Aldbriht, Albrikt,* or *Ælbriht=Aldbrites-tone* (town, &c.) Brighton, in Sussex; was anciently *Brihthelm-es-tone.* The *es* in place-names is usually the genitive, now omitted or shortened to *s.*

ALVELEY, near Bridgnorth.—D. *Alvidelege;* 12th century, *Alvithleg, Alvinelegh;* 13th, *Alvitheleye*; Eyton thinks from A.S. personal name *Ældythe;* but I have not met with such a name. The root is certainly a personal name, possibly *Ealdgyth* or *Ælf-gyth.* The 12th century *Alvinelegh* would rather give us *Ælfwine.* The terminal is, of course, A. S. *leah, leage;* M. E., *ley,* meadow, pasture, untilled land.

ARLEY (Upper), near Bridgnorth, but in Staffordshire, is *Earnleie* and *Earnley* in the charter of Wulfrún to the Monks of "Hamtun" (Wolverhampton) An. 996. With such a good root it is unnecessary to look further. As *earn* in A. S. means an eagle, a romantic etymologist might offer us "the eagle's pasture," which, being nonsense, may be safely rejected. The root is, doubtless, A. S. *œrn, ern, earn,* a place, a house. "In A. S. the *e* would be pronounced like our *a* in *mate,* and the *a* hardly at all, the *r* well trilled. It is the influence of the *r* that has changed *ern* into *arn.* Familiar instances of this influence are *serjeant, clerk, Derby* (Darby), &c. The *n* would gradually drop." (W. H. Stevenson). The terminal *leie* is a form of A. S. *leah, lea,* meadow, pasture, &c. "Upper" has been added in later times, doubtless to distinguish it from "Arley Kings," six miles down Severn. As confirmatory of the view presented I may mention that Arley Kings was

"Ernleie." The A. S. (12th century) poems of Layamon commence:—"There was a priest in the land who was named Layamon; he was the son of Lucais—may the Lord be gracious to him!—he dwelt at 'Ernleie,' at a noble church with the good knight, upon 'Sevarne;'—pleasant it there seemed to him—near Radestone, where he books read."

ASTON.—Every Aston I have met with has, when traced to its root, been *Estune, Estone,* or *Eston* = East-ton. Similarly all Suttons are *Suth-ton* = South-ton; Westons *West-tone* or *tune;* Nortons *North-tone* or *tune.* It is now often difficult to say of what place they were east, south, &c. The multiplicity of these names has, for the sake of distinction, led to many suffixes, such as Aston-Botterell, Aston-Pigot, &c., representing early lords of the manor.

ATCHAM, or ATTINGHAM has, apparently, a very pretty origin. Its D. form is *Atingeham;* in the 12th century we find it *Ettingham* and *Ettingeham;* subsequently *Echingham* and *Attingeham.* Eyton says the meaning is "the home of the children of Eatta." The church is dedicated to St. Eata, who was Abbot of Melrose in 651. Assuming Eyton to be right, the original name would be *Eatan-ing-ham. Ing* is an A. S. patronymic, meaning "son or descendants;" it was also used in the sense of "servants, devotees, or disciples; *hám* is, of course, A. S. for home, village, &c.

BELSWARDINE in D. is *Belleurdine;* in the 12th century, *Bodleswurth;* in the 13th, *Beddlesworth, Belleswurthin, Badelswurthyn, Bedlesworthyn;* in the 14th, *Beddeleswerdyn.* Here the prefix clearly represents the O. E. personal name *Bedel. Wardine* is a well-known Shropshire termination, derived from O. E. *weorthign, weorthin, weorthing, worth,* which D. scribes generally mangled or abbreviated. The A. S. *th* was very much like our *d,* and this, combined with the difficulty which the Normans had in pronouncing *th,* perhaps led to "wardine." The meaning in O. E. is "property," "a farm;" hence, in this case, "Bedel's farm."

BERWICK MALVOISIN (or Maviston) in D. is *Berewic,* and in the 13th century *Berewike* and *Berewyk.* O. E. *Bere-wic,* literally a barley or corn village. In D. it is generally understood as a hamlet pertaining to a manor; but I think it came also to be applied to an outlying farm. The Malvoisins were lords of the manor in the 12th and subsequent centuries.

BISHOP'S CASTLE is in the manor of Lydbury North, which belonged to the Bishops of Hereford before the Conquest and down to the 2 Elizabeth. After Domesday, and before 1154, one of them built a castle here, called in the 12th century

"Lydbury Castle," but in the 13th *Bissopescastell.* Camden says that the "Castle Inn" occupies the site of the Bishop's Castle.

Bishton.—Rather a common name. D. *Bispeton;* 13th century, *Bispeston, Bisopeston,* Bisshopeston; it belonged before the Conquest to some Episcopal See, probably Lichfield; but at the time of Domesday was in lay hands. Clearly O. E. *Biscopes-ton* = Bishops town.

Blymhill.—D. *Brumhelle;* 13th century, *Blomenhull,* Blumenhull, Blymenhull, Blymhyll. Domesday is here untrustworthy. The later charters clearly give a personal name *Blum* or *Blom,* of which *en* is the genitive. We have thus *Blum-en-hull* (O. E. for hill) Blum's hill.

Bridgnorth did not exist, as a town or manor, before the Conquest, and is therefore not mentioned in Domesday. The castle was built by Robert de Belesme in 1101, and the bridge over Severn soon followed, or was contemporary. In the early part of the 12th century the town is mentioned as *Brigge, Bryege, Brug,* O. E. forms of "bridge." The suffix "north" first appears, I believe, in the early part of the 14th century, and has never been satisfactorily accounted for. The left bank of Severn was here the western boundary of the Forest of Morfe, and Camden suggests that the original suffix was *morfe,* and has been corrupted to "north." Some etymologists have accepted this view, which is open to serious objections. There is no evidence to support it. No record has been found in which the town is called *Brugge-morfe.* The suggested corruption is violent and unlikely; and there is, I think, good reason for the town being Bridg*north.* The A. S. C. tells us, under the year 896, that the Danes went to "Cwatbrigge be Sæfern;" (one of the versions says "Brygge be Sæfern"). And further on:—"they then sat that winter at Cwatbrygge," three other versions saying at "Brigge." Under the year 912 two versions of the same chronicle tell us that Æthelflæd, the Lady of the Mercians, built a burgh at *Bricge.* It is clear that Quat, four miles south of Bridgnorth, is the place referred to in the Chronicle, and that there was a bridge there over Severn. When a new town was built on Severn, and a new bridge over it *to the north of an ancient bridge,* and the new town was called "Bridge," nothing, it seems, could be more likely than for the natives, who then knew Quat as "Quat-bridge" or "Bridge," to give the new bridge to the north the name of Bridg-north. Camden's suggested etymology is mere guess-work. He calls the town *Burgh*-morfe, which it certainly never was, and he is as likely to be wrong in his suffix as in his prefix.

Brocton.—There are many Broctons in the Midlands. *Broc.*, in O.E., is a badger, and *brōc.* a brook. Fanciful etymologists frequently take the "badger" interpretation; but our forefathers thought more of brooks than badgers. In the case of "Brockhurst," *hurst* (O. E. *hyrst*) meaning a wood, it is not unlikely to mean "Badger's wood." It would not, however, be always safe to conclude that Brocton means Brook-town. Bróc was a personal name (now represented by Brook or Brookes), and in A.S. charters "brōcces-brōc" = Brook's brook, is a not uncommon boundary.

Broseley.—D. *Bosle;* 12th century, *Burwardsley*; 13th century, *Burewardesley.* Domesday is, doubtless, here at fault, and the later charters are preferable. These give us A. S. personal name *Burhweard* = Burhweard's ley, or pasture. The shortening of the name, though striking, is not uncommon. Bescot, a hamlet and railway station, near Walsall, was "Beresmundes-cote."

Caus.—D. *Alretone,* good A. S. for Alder-town; 12th century *Chaus;* 13th, *Cauheis, Caus, Cauz;* 14th, *Kawes, Kaus, Caws.* Eyton supposes "that Roger fitz Corbet, the Domesday tenant, built a castle here, and called it Caux, he or his father coming from the 'Pays de Caux,' in Normandy." The name must spring from some member of the de Caux family who came from Caux or Cahours, Department of the Somme. The 13th century scribes (above quoted) appear to have been confused between Cahours and Caux. This is one of the very few place-names the Normans have bequeathed to us.

Chelmick, near Church Stretton.—D. Elmundewic; 13th century, Chelmundewyk, Cheilmundewik. A. S. personal name "Ceolmund," and *wic,* a dwelling, village, &c. = Ceolmund-es-wic. (The *Ce* is pronounced *ch*).

Cheney Longville.—D. *Languefelle;* 11th century, *Longafield;* 12th, *Langafield;* 13th, *Langefeld, Longefeld.* A. S. *lang,* and *feld* = long field. The ancient meaning of *feld* was an open space of land = a fell. The Cheneys were lords of the manor as early as 1315.

Church Stretton.—D. *Stratun*; 13th century, *Stratton, Stretton, Strettonedale, Strettondale, Stretton-in-Strettonesdale, Chirch Stretton.* All Strettons, I know, lie on Roman ways, and Church Stretton is on, or near, the southern Watling Street from Wroxeter to Kenchester. A. S. *stræt,* a street, and *ton* = street town. "Church" is a mediæval addition to distinguish it from other Strettons. There was a church here before Domesday.

Claverley.—D. *Claverlage,* 1221, *Claverley.* (The *g* in the terminals is equivalent to *y*). Doubtless, A. S. *clafre,* M. E.

claver = the "clover" ley, or pasture. Clover is still called "claver" in the north of England.

THE CLEE HILLS are not mentioned in D., but Clee Stanton, which lies below them, is there called "Clee." In the 12th century they are described in charters as *Les Clies, Les Clives, La Clye, Cleyes, Chace of the Clyes, La Clee.* All these forms are derivatives of A. S. *clif*, M. E. *clif, clef, cleve*, and their declensions, signifying a rock, headland, a steep place. "Hills" is a later addition, the meaning of Clee having been lost. The hills were formerly a Royal forest by the name of "the Haye of Ernestry and Les Clives." Leland, who visited Shropshire about 1530, says:—"The hilles next to Wenlok be caullid the Broune Cle, and ther be Dere."

CLEOBURY MORTIMER.—D. *Claiberie;* 13th century, *Cleyburi, Clebury Mortimer.* Cleobury stands near the base of the Clee hills, and derives its prefix from them, *Cleo* being a plural form of A. S. *clif* (for which see Clee hills). For "bury," see Clunbury. It belonged to the Mortimers at the time of Domesday, and long afterwards. Cleobury means literally "the burh at the hills." There was a castle here, which is one of the meanings of *burh.*

CLUN.—D. *Clune;* 13th century, *Clune,* subsequently *Cloune, Clawne,* but generally *Clun.* I know of no place-names in England commencing with *Clun,* except in Salop. It is not an A. S. word, but clearly Celtic. It is lost in Welsh and Manx, but preserved in Gaelic and Irish as *Cluain* (pronounced "Cloon") = meadow or pasture bordering on bog. In Ireland about 1800 place-names commence *Clon* and *Cloone,* such as Clonmacnois = the meadow of the sons of Nos; Clonbane = white meadow; Clonboy = yellow meadow; Cloonybrien = Brian's meadow; Clonmel = the meadow of the bees, &c. The Domesday and first 13th century form, "Clune," would be pronounced "Cloon," as in Irish, and, I think, identify the word. "Clown," in Derbyshire, is *Clune* in Domesday, and has probably the same etymon.

CLUNGUNFORD.—D. *Clone;* 13th century, *Clonne-Geneford, Clune-Gonnef(ord), Clungonnert;* 14th century, *Clonegoneford.* "Clun" here would have the same origin as "Clun" (q. v.) Domesday tells us "Gunward held it" (in Saxon time). Gunward, Gunner, Gunwar, or Gunnert, as his name was variously spelt, held several manors in Salop in the time of Edward the Confessor (Eyton).

CLUNBURY.—D. *Cluneberie,* 1263, *Clunbiry.* For "Clun," see "Clun." The terminations *berie, biry, bury,* are forms of A. S. *burh,* dative *birig,* a dwelling, village, town, &c. Clunbury would therefore mean the "burh" in the meadow,

Cressage is a good instance of the need for etymologists to be "radical." Without research, and guided only by guess, a bold writer would perhaps offer us some reference to water cress, or the battle of Crecy; but a little pains gives us a safe and charming root. We find it in D. *Cristesache*; in the 12th century, *Cristesech;* in the 13th *Cristesich, Cristeseche,* and *Cristesach.* A. S. *Cristes-ac,* Christ's oak. The later *ch* is the Norman representation of *k,* and *e* is the dative case. Probably the Gospel was here preached to the heathens under some ancient oak.

Eaton Mascott. D. *Etune;* 13th century, *Eton Marscot;* 14th, *Eaton Mascott.* A. S. *ea,* a river, water, &c.=literally water-ton. All Eatons, Etons, and Eytons that I have traced have a similar etymon. The Marescot or Marscot family were lords here in the 12th and 13th centuries.

High Ercall.—D. *Archelou*; 12th century, *Ercalou;* 13th and 14th, *Harcalu, Erkalewe, Herkelawe, Ercalwe.* The terminal is, doubtless, A. S. *hlaw, hlau*; M. E. *low, lawe,* a burial mound, tumulus; and I suggest the prefix represents the personal name *Ercol,* the A. S. equivalent to "Hercules." Though I have not met with "Ercol" in any A. S. record, I think it must have been a name. Hercules is still an occasional Christian and surname. I believe Ercall is pronounced Arcall, which is consistent with the suggested etymology, and with O. E. pronunciation. In the Red Book of Hergest (Skene's Four Books i., 457), in a poem which refers to the Wrekin district, we find:—

> Were it the wife of Gyrthmwl she would be languid
> This day; loud would be her scream;
> She would deplore the loss of her heroes.
>
> The soil of Ercol is on courageous men,
> On the progeny of Moryal,
> And after Rhys great lamentation.

This appears to refer to a battle and to a burial mound at Ercall, and though the poem is only a 14th century production, it refers to events of the 6th century, and is probably founded on ancient MS. or tradition. I do not know if there is a tumulus at Ercall; so many burial mounds have been destroyed in modern times that its absence would hardly be an argument against its former existence.

Child's Ercall.—D. gives this as *Arcalun*; in 12th century charters it is *Herkall, Hercalewe, Erkalewe, Erkalue, Erchelewe;* 13th century, *Arcalun;* 14th century, *Childs Ercalewe.* These roots do not give any new light on the personal name

before discussed, but rather confirm the view that it was "Ercol," giving us in A. S., *Ercoles-hlau*, the mound of Ercol. Since writing this I have bethought me of a manumission of serfs, published in Kemble's Codex Diplomaticus, No. 925, which, freely translated, runs:—"Geatfleda gave freedom for love of God and her soul's sake, that is Eeccard, smith, and Elstan, and his wife, and all their offspring born and unborn, and *Arcil* and Cole, and Egferth, Eadhunes daughter, and all the men that bent their head for hireling food in the evil days," &c. It is clear from this that "Arcil" was an A. S. personal name, and in all probability represented *Ercol*.

Fitz, near Shrewsbury.—Without research one would say this is certainly a Norman name; but it is not. D. has it *Witesot;* 12th century charters, *Phittesho, Fittesho, Fitesso;* 13th century, *Fittes, Fittesho, Fitz, Fytesho, Fittes*. Unless the *W* in Domesday is an error for *Ph*, this case illustrates the difficulty Norman clerks sometimes had to understand Anglo-Saxons. Probably the Commissioners were told the name of the villo was Phittesho, or Fittesho, and the scribe wrote what he would pronounce "Witso." *Phittes*, or *Fittes*, is clearly the gen. form of a personal name. The termination *ho* is common in Devon and Lincolnshires, and occasional only in the Midlands. It is A. S. *hōp, ho, hoo*, the original meaning of which was a point of land formed like a heel or boot stretching into a plain, or the sea. Ultimately, I think it came to mean any kind of hill; but I have no authority for that opinion, except observation. Walsall, before the Conquest, was *Wales-ho*, which, rigidly interpreted, means "the hill of the strangers;" but "Wales" had come to be a personal name as early as the ninth century, and the probability is that Walsall means "Wales' hill." It changed the terminal *ho* to *hale*, and so become Wales-hale, in the early part of the 12th century.

Gatacre.—Always *Gatacre* since the Conquest. Probably A. S. *gāt*, goat, and *æcer*, a field = goat field.

Hadnall, near Shrewsbury.—D. *Hadehelle;* 12th century, *Hadenhale* (several charters). The charters are preferable to Domesday, which here is certainly at fault; they give us the genitive form of a personal name; I suggest "Headda" = the hall of Headda. "Haden" is now a common personal name, and has, probably, the same root.

Harlescot, near Shrewsbury.—Not in D.; 12th century, *Herlaveschot;* 13th century, *Harlauscote, Harlescote, Harlawscote, Herlavescote*. Probably A. S. personal name *Herelāf*, which, in M. E., would become *Herelave* = Herelafes-cot.

HAYCRUST, near Acton Scott. Without enquiry this would be as fine a field for guess as Cressage. It is not in D., but in 13th century charters it is *Havekhurst, Hauekhurst.* A. S. *hafoc,* M. E. *hœvec,* a hawk, A.S., *hyrst,* M. E. *hurst,* a wood = Hawk-wood. "Hawk" was, however, a personal name, as now, and it is possible that the wood might be named after someone possessing or occupying it. In ancient language "wood" did not imply a collection of trees, but "wild land," timbered or otherwise.

HINSTOCK.—D. *Stoche;* 13th century, *Hinestok, Hinstoke, Hynestok.* Probably A. S. *Hina-stoc,* the hind's (labourer's) place. But here again "Hine" is a personal name, and though I have not met with it, probably was so in remote times. "Ina" was an A. S. name.

HOPE BOWDLER, near Ludlow.—This is a not uncommon instance of "change" of name. D. gives it "Fordritishope." *Hope* is a common prefix or suffix in Salop, and means a hollow, a valley; A. S. *hōp;* M. E. *hope.* The Domesday name would therefore be "Forthræds or Frōdræds valley;" but in the 13th century we find it *Hop, Hope, Hupe Budlers.* Eyton says:—"In the hands of the 'de Bollers' it acquired the name of Hope Bollers or Buthlers, of which Bowdler is the modern form."

HOPTON WAFRE.—D *Hoptone;* A. S. *hop-tone,* "the ton in the valley." *Hop* has several meanings, all connected with a valley. In the poem of Beowulf it is used in the sense of a fen or swamp. The "le Wafres," or "de Wafres," were ancient lords.

HUGHLEY, near Wenlock.—Not in Domesday; 13th century, *Leya, Lee;* A. S., *leah, leag,* pasture. *Hugh,* from Hugh de Lee, an ancient lord of the manor.

HUNTINGTON, near Ludlow. D. *Hantenetune*; 13th century, *Huntiton, Huntindon*; A. S. *hunta, tune.* The Domesday form is from the genitive plural *huntena,* and gives us "Hunter's town." But again "Hunta" was an A. S. personal name.

INGWARDINE.—This is one of the few Shropshire place-names of which we have record before Domesday. It is mentioned in the will of Wulfgeat of Donnington[1] (early 11th century) as *Ingewyrthe*; D. has it *Ingurdine*; 12th century charters *Ingwrdin* and *Hingwordin*; 13th century, *Ingwordine.* I have no doubt "Ingo" represents the A. S.

[1] *Transactions,* 2nd S., V. III., p. 36.

personal name "Inga," and that the accurate original name was "Ingan-wyrthe," = the farm (or property) of Inga. This is a good illustration of the gradual passage of the A. S. *wyrthe*, &c., into *wardine*, as mentioned under Belswardine.

ISOMBRIDGE, near Wellington.—D. *Asnebruge*; 12th century, *Esnebrugg;* 13th, *Enesbrugge, Esnebrugg, Esombridge;* 14th, *Esnebrugge. Esne* in A. S. means a servant, retainer; but here it is evidently used as a personal name. It was a common name, and despite its meaning, frequently borne by men of rank. We may safely construe it as Esne's bridge (A. S. *brycg*, M. E. *brig, brugge*).

KINNERLEY, near Knockin.—D. *Chenardlie;* 12th century, *Kinardsley, Kinardeslegh;* 13th, *Kinardly, Kinardeleg.* The D. *Ch.* being hard, we may safely attribute this to the A. S. personal name "Cyneheard," giving us Cyneheard's lea (pasture).

KYNASTON, near Knockin.—D. *Chimerestun;* 12th century, *Kineverdeston.* We may very well assign this to the personal name *Cyneweard* (gen. weardes) *ton*, town (or dwelling.)

KINNERTON, near Bishop's Castle.—13th century, *Kynewardon;* 1534, *Kynnerdon.* The roots are few, but the earlier one is probably correct, and would give us the A. S. personal name "Cyneweard"'s *dun* (hill). The change from *dun* to *don*, and then to *ton* is not uncommon. It is well to say that all personal names suggested appear in A. S. charters, unless otherwise mentioned.

KINNERSLEY.—D. *Chinardesei;* 12th century, *Kinardesey, Kinardesie;* 13th, *Kinardsleye, Kinardseye.* I should construe this to be A. S. personal name *Cyneheard* (gen. form *Cyneheardes*) and *eg*, M. E. *eie*, island or watery land; it may be a form of *ea*, a stream. The *Ch* in the D. form should be pronounced *K*.

LONGSLOW.—This is a very curious example of corruption. In D. it is *Walanceslau*; in the 12th century, *Wolncheslawe, Wlenkeslawe, Wlonkeslawe, Wlonkeslowe* (frequently); 13th century, *Langeslawe, Longislow.* The terminals *lau* and *lawe* represent A. S. *hlaw, hlaw*; M. E. *low, lawe*, a funeral mound, tumulus. The prefix is perplexing; it looks like A. S. *wlonc*, proud, splendid (with the genitive *es* added). I have not met with it as a personal name, but a man might be named, or nicknamed, "wlonc" just as we have records of Norse "Prouds" in England, and the name "Roden," A. S. *hroden*, ornamented, adorned. I think we may venture to read this as *Wlonc-es-hlaw*, the mound (or burial place) of Wlonc.

MEOLE BRACE.—D. *Melan;* 12th century, *Mole, Moles*; 13th century, *Meles, Meules, Meole, Meoles, Melesbracey.* The de

Bracey, Braci, or Brascey family held the manor in the 12th and 13th centuries. *Meole* is perhaps W. *moel* (my-oel) a hill, generally a bare hill; often applied to hillocks or sand banks.

Monk Meole.—D. *Melam*; 13th century, *Moele, Meola-Monk* (it belonged to the monks of Buildwas). For *Meole* see Meole Brace.

Mytton, near Shrewsbury.—D. *Mutone*; 13th century, *Muton, Mutton.* Mytton or Mitton is a common place-name. All Mittons I know are situate upon the confluence of streams, and when traced back are "Mutton." I think it clear the root is A. S. *mutha*, gen. *muthan*, the mouth of a river; *mythe*, gen. *mythan*, has the same meaning, and I find all places named, or commencing *Myth*, are at a confluence. This Mytton is, I believe, near the junction of a stream with Severn. The well-known Shropshire family name "Mytton" was formerly "Mutton."

Neen.—D. *Nene.* All Shropshire Neens are on the river Rea, which Eyton says was formerly called the Neen.

Neenton seems to have changed its name. In D. it is *Newentone* = clearly New-ton; in the 13th century it is *Neuton, Newton, Neynton, Neuton*; 14th, *Neinton.*

Neen Savage.—D. *Nene*; 1341, *Nein Savage.* A family of "le Savage," or "Sauvage," were its lords.

Neen Sollars. D. *Nene.* "Sollars" is derived from a family of "de Solariis or Solers," who were its Norman lords. *Neen* must, I think, be derived from W. *neint*, pl. of *nant*, a brook, stream. There is a "Nene" in Northamptonshire, and a "Nent" in Cumberland.

Newport was founded by Henry I. In the 12th century it is termed *New borough* (Novo Burgo); in the 13th *Neuport*; 13th and 14th, *Neuport* and *Newborough* (sometimes in the same document). A. S. *port*, a town (when used inland). Many ancient roads are called "the Portway," and are consequently supposed to be "Roman" ways leading to a seaport; but they are usually the way to the market town of the locality, though sometimes they are parts of a great road.

Oaken Gates.—1535, *Okynyate;* 1536, *Wokynatt.* The earlier form gives a little help. The ville is situate on a steep hill side of Watling Street. I think it is W. *ochr* or *ockren*, a hill side, and M. E. *gáte* and *yate*, a road, street = the street on the hill side. Throughout the Midlands there are many places named Ocker Hill, Hockerill, and Hockley, all on hill sides.

Pedwardine, near Brampton Bryan.—D. *Pedewede;* 13th century, *Pewarthyn, Pedewardyn, Pedwordin.* Probably from the A. S. personal name *Peada* and *worthyn*, a farm (see Belswardine) = Peada's farm.

OXENBOLD, near Shrewsbury.—D. *Oxibola*; 13th century, *Oxneboud, Oxenbode*; 14th century, *Oxnebold*; A. S., *Oxnabold*, the cows-house.

PONTESBURY, near Shrewsbury.—In the A. S. Chronicle, under the year 661, we read:—"In this year Kênwealh fought at Easter at *Posentesburh*." This must be Pontesbury, as the name is unique. In D. we find it *Pantesberie*; in the 13th century, *Pantesberi*. *Posent* or *Pant* certainly represents a personal name, of which *es* is the genitive; but I have not met with such a name, or any like it; for *burh* see Clunbury.

RODEN, RODENHURST, and RODINGTON, all situate on the river Roden, near Wellington. We have here another A. S. root. Wulfgate of Donnington by his will (early part of 11th century) "grants his wife the land at Cylles-hall" (Kilsall, near Tong), "and at Eowinglade" (Evenlode in Worcestershire), "and at *Hrodene*, the while her day be;" &c. In D. we find *Rodintone*; in the 13th century, *Rodene* and *Rodynhurst*. River names being generally more ancient than A. S. personal names, and important factors in place-names, we might readily suppose that the stream gave its name to the three places upon it; but A. S. *hrodene* means laden, laden with ornaments, ornamented, adorned—terms unlikely to be applied to a river, but not unlikely to be bestowed on some gorgeous individual. The surname "Roden" is not uncommon in the Midlands, though, as a place-name, it is confined to Salop. *Rodenhurst* mean's Roden's wood. The *ing* in Rodington is certainly patronymic, meaning "descendants of," and we may therefore construe that name as "the town of the descendants of Roden." Rivers rarely take their names from individuals, and often confer them, but I have met with local exceptions, verified by ancient charters.

RUYTON-OF-THE-ELEVEN-TOWNS.—D. *Ruitone*; 13th century, *Ruton*; 14th, *Ruitone*. Etymons embracing two languages should always have good evidence to support them; but Welsh and Anglo-Saxon are certainly sometimes mingled in Salop, and even in parts of Staffordshire. I think the prefix represents W. *rhiw*, a slope or hill side, followed by the A. S. *ton*= the town on the hill side. There are two Rytons in Salop, anciently *Ruitone*, and *Rutone*. "Of-the-Eleven-towns" is said to refer to eleven "tons," or hamlets, supposed to be, or to have been, members of Ruyton. In an article in the *Transactions* of the S. A. Society, ix. 246, they are said to be Cotton, Eardiston, Ruyton, Shelvock, Shotatton, Wikey, Haughton, Rednal, Sutton, Tedsmore, and West Felton, but no authority is given for that statement. Eyton says the

existing townships are Ruyton itself, Cotton, Eardiston, Shelvock, Shotatton, and Wykey; he supposes the other five are "lost." I am told that Ruyton is situate on a hill side, sloping to the river Perry.

SEVERN.—Roman, "*Sabrinâ;*" Early W., *Safren*; A. S., *Sæferne, Seferne;* Later W., *Hafren*. Professor Rhys says the early Welsh never had an initial *h*; but by the ninth century initial *s* had passed into *h*. He thinks the Romans and Saxons may have learned the name of the river from British Gauls, and not from the Welsh. As the Romans were in the habit of adopting native names so far as their language would allow, the etymology of Severn should probably be sought in some pre-Roman tongue. In Irish, *Sabhraun* (pronounced Savran) means a boundary, and was the ancient name of the river Lee, County Cork. The Severn was certainly in parts an ancient boundary, and possibly so in pre-Roman times. The conversion of "*Sabhraun*" into *Sabrina* by the Romans, and by the Anglo-Saxons into *Sæferne*, is not unlikely; but it is only a suggestion. In studying river names one is frequently landed and lost in the mist of some "unknown tongue."

SHERIFF HALES has had a chequered career in the way of names. We find it in D. *Halas;* in 1255, *Halys*; in 1259, *Hales Paunton*; in 1265, *Hales Trussell*; in 1281, *Hales upon Lousyerd* (Lizard); in 1327, *Sheriff Hales*. It was Hales Paunton because in the 12th and 13th centuries the Pantulfs, later known as Pantons and Pauntons, were its lords; Hales Trussell because the Trussells succeeded them; and Sheriff Hales because Rainold Bailgiole, Sheriff of Shropshire, was its lord in the latter part of the 11th century; Hales upon Lousyerd because of its vicinity to Lizard hill. Hales being a common name, it was found necessary to give some distinctive addition to most places so called; but why the titles of comparatively modern lords should be abandoned, and that of an early Norman lord preferred, does not appear. In this case Domesday is entirely right, "halas" being the plural of A.S. *healh*, a word of somewhat doubtful meaning, but used in most charters in the sense of meadow, pasture, or enclosed land. *Heales* is the genitive singular of *healh*, and the passage from *Halas to Heales*, and thence to *Hales*, would be natural. There are some place-names terminating "in Hales" (such as Betton in Hales) = Betton in the meadows, &c.

SHRAWARDINE.—D. *Saleurdine;* 12th century, *Snewardin, Shrawardine, Schrawurdi*; 13th century, *Shrewurthin, Schyreworthdin, Schrewardyn*. Eyton says it is sometimes called "Castle Isabel," there having been a Royal border fortress

here. In 1272 the then lord had a wife Isabel (de Mortimer). Blakeway (*Hist. of Shrewsbury*, i. 170), says it derives its name from having been the residence of Anglo-Saxon and Norman Sheriffs, and that a charter dated at Shrewsbury, 25 March, 1292, gives the name "Schyreeveworthin," meaning "the worth (farm) of the Shire reeve, or sheriff."

SHREWSBURY.—The earliest form of this name known to me is in a Latin charter of Æthered and Æthelfled, of Mercia, to Wenlock Abbey, An. 901, tested "in civitate Scrobbensis." Under the year 1006 we find in three versions of the A. S. Chronicle *Scrobbesbyrigscire*, and in one version *Scropesbyri*. Under 1016 we have *Scrobscætan* in one version of the Chronicle, and *Scrobbesbyrig* in two versions. In Domesday we have it *Sciropberie* eight times. All "authorities" have agreed to interpret *Scrobbesbyrig* "the burgh of shrubs." Bosworth does so in his A. S. Dictionary, under "Scrobbesburh." Professor Skeat in his Etymological Dictionary, under "shrub," says :—"A. S. *scrob*, a shrub, preserved in . . . *Scrobbesbyrig*, Shrewsbury (lit. Shrubsbury)." Blakeway (*History of Shrewsbury*), Toller (A. S. Dict.), and Bradley (Stratmann's M. E. Dictionary 1891, under "schrob"), all adopt the same view, perhaps in deference to Bosworth, and without investigation. Notwithstanding this weight of authority, I venture to submit that "Scrobbesbyrig" means the burgh of "Scrob"—a personal name. "Scrobbesbyrig" is the gen. sin., and means literally (accepting the construction of authority), the town of *a* shrub. The pl. form should be "Scrobbabyrig;" but if "Scrob" was used in the sense of a personal name we should expect to find it as it is, genitive singular, *Scrobbesbyrig*. The absurdity of any generation of men naming a place "the town of a shrub," or "the town of shrubs," never appears to have struck anybody; but "Scrob's" burgh, Scrob being used as a personal name, is sensible, and consistent with surrounding etymologies. "In civitate Scrobbensis" in the charter of 901 is clearly "in the city of Scrobb," the *ensis* being an adjectival suffix used in a genitive sense, as "of" or "belonging to." Was "Scrob" a personal name? Certainly. Eyton says :—"Richard fitz Scrobi or Scrob was a Norman, settled in England before the Conquest, and a favourite of Edward the Confessor. He held property in Salop, and estates in Herefordshire, where he was termed "Scrupe." *Scropesberie* in one version of the A. S. Chronicle under 1006 is marvellously like this alias "Scrupe," "Scroop," or "Scrope," as we find it in after times. We have Scrooby in the N. E. of Notts, D. *Scrobi*. Can anybody doubt that is "Scrob's village?" The only difference is that

under Norse influence, *sc* was sounded like *sk*. There seems reason to doubt whether *scrob* in A. S. does mean a shrub. Bosworth says it does, and quotes "Lye" as an authority; he also gives "scyribe" as "shrub." Toller deliberately omits "scrob," but gives "scyribe." I doubt if *scrob*, as a shrub, has ever been found in an A. S. charter. (The *sc* in *scrob* and *scyribe* would, in Mercian dialect, be pronounced *sh*).

Sleap (near Wem).—D. *Eslepe*, 1255, and afterwards *Slepe*. The Domesday E may be discarded; it is only the French prefix to initial S. We then have plain A. S. *slæp*, a miry place. There is another *Sleap*, near Wellington, which was anciently *Sleppe*, *Slepe*. The etymology would be the same.

The Stiperstones.—1190, *Tenefrestanes* (Forest of), 1224, *Stennfretaines* (Forest of), 1292, *Steyfrestanes*. This name being, I think, unique, has evidently perplexed the scribes. It is, however, clearly A. S. *stipere-stanes* = pillar (or upright) stones. I am told that masses of rock protrude on the hill, pillar like, and sometimes like Cyclopean forts.

Wappenshall, near Wellington.—An etymological "guesser" might say this place had some connection with a "wappenshaw." The earliest roots I have are *Whatmundeshale* and *Quatmundeshale* (without date). We may safely assign them to the A. S. personal name *Hwætmund*, giving us, in genitive form, *Hwætmundes-hale* (hall).

Wem.—D. *Weme;* 13th century, *Wemme*, *Weme*. Perhaps A. S. *hwem*, *hwemm*, a corner, angle. I do not know what it can be situate at the corner or angle of, unless it be of two rivers.

Wenlock.—901, *Wimnic;* D. *Wenloch*. It is difficult to suppose that Wenloch can be a corruption of Wimnic. It is perhaps a change of name. *Wimnic* I can make nothing of. *Wenloch* may be W. *gwen-lloc*, white (or fair) mound. There is a place named "Barrow" two miles east of Wenlock, which points to the existence of a tumulus in the locality.

Wombridge.—12th century, *Wombrug*, *Wombrugge*. Wombridge and Wombourne are common names in the Midlands. I take the root to be A. S. *hwamm*, *hwomn*, *hwem*, a corner, angle, giving us in "Wombridge" the bridge at the corner, and in Wombourne, the brook at the corner. I have met in a charter with the words "æt wōn brycge," meaning "at the twisted bridge;" but I do not think that "wom" is a corruption of "won." Wombourne, in Staffordshire, is "Wamburne" in Domesday.

Wrekin, Wroxeter, Wrockwardine.—I group these names, believing them to have the same root. Eyton assumes

the prefixes to be W. *wrch*, that which is high or round. The Wrekin is certainly high and round, and in the absence of a better etymology, and of all research, we might be content with Eyton's "guess" (he gives no reason or authority), though he does not account for the terminal *in*. The Romans called Wroxeter *Uriconium* (i.e., Vriconium), and a connection between that name and the Wrekin is accepted by many Celtic scholars. The British name of Wroxeter, according to Nennius (who wrote in the eighth or ninth century, as he tells us, "not trusting to my own learning, which is little or none at all, but partly from traditions of our ancestors, partly from writings and monuments of the ancient inhabitants of Britain, partly from the annals of the Romans," &c.), was *Caer Guricon*. I am told by an eminent philologist that *Vriconium* is a genuine Celtic combination, and in old Celtic would be *Wrikonion;* and that *Guricon* in modern Welsh is *Gwrygon*, and in old Welsh was *Wrycon* (the g being a later prefix before w); and further, that *Wrycon* is an old Celtic feminine personal name. Nennius is said to have been a Welshman, and to have written in Welsh, though only Latin and Irish versions of his work have survived to our time. The first mention we have of the Wrekin in A. S. is in a fragmentary list of early territorial names (Chart. Sax. i. 415), classed as "about" the year 800. After referring to Mercia it says:—"*Wocen sætna* is 7,000 hides." This document appears to be older than the shire-system, and has come down to us in a corrupt form. "Wocen" is generally understood to be a mistake for "Wrocen." A charter of Burgred, King of the Mercians (855) is tested "in loco qui vocatur Oswaldesdun, quando fuerent pagani in Wreocensetun" (in the place which is called Oswaldesdun, [Oswald's hill, probably Oswestry], when the pagans [Danes] were at *Wreocensetun*). In a charter of Edgar (963) the king grants lands at Plash, near Cardington, and Aston, near Lilleshall, "in provincia *Wrocensetna*." As Cardington and Lilleshall are twenty miles apart, "the province of Wrocensetna" must have represented a large district, and it would seem that Shropshire was not a recognised county before the end of the tenth century. The terminals "setna" and "setun" are the gen. pl. and dat. forms of A. S. *sæta*, and mean "inhabitants," "men of." In another charter of Edgar (An. 975) the king grants lands at Aston, the bounds of which travel along "Wrocene" to Watling Street. Wroxeter in D. is *Rochecestre;* 12th century, *Wroxcestre*, *Wroccestre;* 13th century, *Wroececestre*, *Wrokecestre;* 14th century, *Wroccestre*. The terminal is clearly A. S. *ceaster*, *cester* (dat. *ceastre*), a fortress, generally

applied by the Anglo-Saxons to the ruins of Roman cities. Wrockwardine in D. is *Recordine;* 12th century, *Wrocwrthn, Worochewurthin;* 13th century, *Wrocwurdin, Wrochwurdin, Wrocwurthin.* The terminal is certainly A.S. *weorthign* (see Belswardine), a farm. The Red Book of Hergest (Skene's Four Books, ii. 288), though relating to events of the sixth century, is evidently a mediæval composition. It contains a verse which refers to Wroxeter or the Wrekin:—

> Have I not gazed from Dinlle
> Wrecon on the patrimony of Ffreuer,
> With grief for its social enjoyment.

Dinlle means a fortified place, and as there is an old fort on the Wrekin, it is more likely that the bard "gazed"—with "eye in a fine frenzy rolling"—from a hill top than from low lying Wroxeter. In the original Welsh verse "Wrecon" is written "Urecon." I submit there is strong reason to believe that Wrekin has its root in a Welsh personal name, such as "Wrycon," passing into Roman "Vriconium," and A. S. "Wreocen," and that Wroxeter and Wrockwardine take their prefixes from it. The Roman form *Vriconium,* sometimes written *Vriconion,* supports this view, the suffix *ium* or *ion* meaning that the locality was the property or territory of "Vricon."

COMMITTEE FOR THE SEQUESTRATION OF THE ESTATES OF SHROPSHIRE DELINQUENTS.

By R. LL. KENYON.

The following letter is among the "Accounts and Papers relating to Sequestered Estates" in the British Museum, Add. MSS. 5,508, f. 113:—

Gent,

We received y^rs^ of the 29^th^ of August last whereby we understand that you are authorized by the Hon^ble^ Houses of Parliament to put an ordinance of theirs of the 19^th^ of June last in execution for the taking of accounts of all sequestered estates and receiving of such money which is in the hands of any intrusted or employed by the State in that business: and thought good to acquaint you that it pleased the hon^ble^ houses of Parliament upon the undertaking of this Committee to reduce this County unto the obedience of the Parliament it being then wholly in the possession of the enemy to grant a special ordinance of Parliament unto them for the raising of money both out of delinquents estates and otherwise for the pay of the forces raised or to be raised for the services of the Parliament in that County; and accordingly this Committee have employed and converted and by virtue of the said ordinance do employ the said money for the pay of such officers and soldiers in the County and the payment of many great sums of money charged upon this County for the pay of the arrears of officers and soldiers that have formerly served the State therein and for and towards several other necessary uses for the defence of the County; wherefore as we contend this committee is exempted out of the said ordinance by reason of the proviso therein contained; thus at present we rest

Your assured friends to serve you

H. Mackworth
Th. Nicolls
Sam. More.

Salop 7^th^ October 1648.

The letter is addressed—

"To our honoured friends Sam[l] Avery, William Hobson, and Richard Hill, Esq[rs] Commissioners for Sequestrations at Guildhall, London, these present."

On the 1st April, 1643, an Ordinance was made by the two Houses of Parliament for Sequestering Delinquents' Estates into the hands of Committees for each County nominated in the Ordinance, or to be nominated afterwards by the two Houses. This is printed by Rushworth and Scobell, but the names of the members of the Committees are not given.

On the 10th April, 1643, the Shropshire Committee was appointed by another Ordinance.

On the 13th June, 1644, an Ordinance was made "for raising of moneys for the maintenance of such forces as are and shall be raised in the County of Salop, for the service of the Parliament." It was, no doubt, this Ordinance upon which the Shropshire Committee of Sequestrations acted, and to which they refer in the above letter.

On the 17th December, 1647, an Ordinance was made "for appointing the Committee of Sequestrations in the several counties of England and Wales speedily to deliver in an account of all the sequestered lands and goods, and how they have been disposed of;" and it was followed by Ordinances on the same subject on the 9th August and 25th August, 1648. None of these Ordinances of 1644, 1647, and 1648 are printed by Rushworth or Scobell, but the latter gives the titles of them. We see by the above letter that the Shropshire Committee strongly objected to being called upon to give an account of the money they had extracted from the estates of their Royalist neighbours.

The signatures to the letter are those of well-known persons. The two former were among the Aldermen of Shrewsbury nominated in the King's Charter of June, 1638. They both, however, declared themselves against the King, and absented themselves from Shrewsbury while the King was there in 1642, and when he

left Shrewsbury he proclaimed them traitors, together with Thomas Hunt (ancestor of the Hunts of Boreatton). The Corporation accordingly declared that all three of them had vacated their seats as aldermen; but all three were restored after Mytton's capture of the town in February, 1644-5.

Humphrey Mackworth was of an old Derbyshire family, and was the owner of Betton Strange, which had belonged to his family since 1544. He married a sister of Waller the poet. He was Mayor of Shrewsbury in 1645, and was appointed Governor of the town about 1646, and retained that office till his death. In December, 1648, he and the Garrisons of Shrewsbury and Ludlow petitioned Fairfax against making any treaty with the King, and that justice might be done without respect of persons. (Rushworth vii., 1374.) He was summoned on the 20th August, 1651, by Charles II., who had arrived with the Scottish army at Tong Norton on his way to Worcester, to surrender the town, but he refused to do so. He was Recorder of Bridgnorth and a member of Cromwell's Privy Council, and M.P. for Shropshire in 1654. He died in December of that year, and was buried in Henry VII.'s Chapel in Westminster Abbey. He was succeeded at Betton Strange by his son Thomas, M.P. for Shropshire in 1656 and 1658, and Sheriff 1669. Thomas's son Humphrey was knighted for his loyalty by Charles II., and Humphrey's grandson Herbert, was created a Baronet, and sold his Shropshire estates of Buntingsdale and Betton. The present Baronet is of Glen Uske, Caerleon.

Thomas Nicolls was of Boycott, near Pontesbury, and had been Bailiff of Shrewsbury in 1636, and Sheriff of the county in 1641. He married Mary, daughter and co-heiress of John Kynaston, Esq., of Marton.

Samuel More was son of Richard More of Linley, M.P. for Bishop's Castle in the Long Parliament. His mother was an aunt of Sir Paul Harris of Boreatton, but he took the opposite side in the civil war, and defended Hopton Castle against the Royalists, but was compelled

but Shrewsbury he proclaimed them traitors, together with Thomas Hunt (mentioned in the Lists of ...). The Corporation accordingly disabled ... of them ... ; but all three were restored when ... the town in February, 1644-5.

Humphrey Mackworth, was of an old Derbyshire family, and was the owner of Betton Strange, which had belonged to his family since 1591. He married a sister of William ... He was Mayor of Shrewsbury in 1648, and was ... Governor of the town about 1646, and retained that office till his death. In December, 1649, he and the Governor of Shrewsbury and ... proclaimed ... against holding any treaty with the King, and ... to them ... (Owen and Blakeway ...) ... the 20th August, 1651, by Charles II., who had arrived with the Scottish army at Tong Norton on his way to Worcester, to surrender the town, but he refused to do so. He was ... of ... and a member of Cromwell's Privy Council, and M.P. for Shropshire in 1654. He died in December of that year, and was buried in Henry VII.'s Chapel in Westminster Abbey. He was succeeded as Governor of Shrewsbury by his son Thomas, M.P. for Shropshire in 1656 and 1658, and Sheriff 1658. Thomas's son Humphrey was knighted for his loyalty by Charles II. and Humphrey's grandson Herbert was created a Baronet, ... by Elizabeth, ... of Northampton and Neath. The present Baronet is of Glen Usk, Caerleon.

Thomas ... near Pontesbury, and had been Bailiff of Shrewsbury in 1638, and Sheriff of the county in 1641. He married Mary, daughter and co-heiress of John Kynaston, Esq., of Morton.

Samuel More was son of Richard More of Linley, M.P. for Bishop's Castle in the Long Parliament. His mother was ... of Sir Paul Harris of Boreatton, but he took the opposite side in the civil war and defended Hopton Castle against the Royalists, but was compelled

to surrender it. After Shrewsbury had been captured by Mytton, "In regard of the great love and affection which Andrew Lloyde of Aston, Samuel More of Linley, Robert Clive of Stiche, and Robert Charleton of Apley, Esquires, four of the committyes of Parliament for the County of Salop, with the rest of the committee who were borne burgesses, have expressed to this Corporation," all four were admitted burgesses of Shrewsbury. More was governor of all the border castles from Hereford to Montgomery under Cromwell, and was returned to represent Shropshire in Parliament in 1656, but was excluded by Cromwell. He was Governor of Ludlow under Charles II., and died in 1662. He was an ancestor of the present M.P. for the Ludlow division of Shropshire.

Of the "committyes" who signed other letters, see Owen and Blakeway 1,460, ii. 498, 500.

Sir John Corbet was of Stoke and Adderley, and son of Richard Corbet, Sheriff of Shropshire in 1593. He was created a Baronet in 1627, but refused to subscribe to the forced loan of that year, and was imprisoned in the Gatehouse at Westminster, where Dean's Yard now stands. With four others he took out a writ of Habeas Corpus, which was argued before Sir Nicholas Hide and other judges, but they decided that the return to the writ, "detained by special command of the King," was good, and the prisoners were accordingly remanded. They were released when writs were issued for a new Parliament in January, 1627-8. In 1629 Sir John was Sheriff of Shropshire, and in that year the Privy Council ordered that for keeping the Trained Bands in good order a Muster Master should be appointed in each county, to be paid by money to be granted by the Grand Jury. Sir John declared at the Shropshire Quarter Sessions that this order was illegal and against the Petition of Right. For this he was again imprisoned and fined; but in November, 1640, he was returned to the Long Parliament as Member for Shropshire together with his first cousin, Sir Richard Lee; and after debates

of 4 June and 27 August, 1641, the House of Commons resolved that he ought to have reparation from the Council, that the information against him in the Star Chamber ought to be taken off the file, and the Lord Keeper Coventry (then dead), Archbishop. Laud, Lord Cottington, and others who had caused his imprisonment, ought to be proceeded against. Sir John was named in the Ordinance of 10 April, 1643, as chief of the Shropshire Committee of Sequestrations, and on 22 Sept. of that year he took the Covenant in the House of Commons. He was named in August, 1648, as a member of "the Committee of Lords and Commons to adjudge and determine scandalous offences." He was first cousin to the Royalist Sir Richard Lee, and to the father of the Parliamentarian General Mytton. He married Anne, daughter of Sir George Mainwaring of Ightfield, and had 20 children, of whom 17 grew up. (See Rushworth i. 458, 473; ii. 10; iv. 7, 281, 381; Scobell's *Acts;* Phillips's *Civil War in Wales*, &c., p. 160).

Thomas Mytton was of Halston, and became a Colonel in the Parliamentary Army. He was the most active and successful of the Parliamentary leaders in this county, and was the principal instrument in capturing Wem, Oswestry, and Shrewsbury from the Royalists. For the last of these exploits he received the thanks of the House of Commons on the 29th March, 1645. He was Parliamentary Sheriff of Shropshire in 1645, took Ruthin and Conway in 1646, became a Major-General, and was wounded in an attack on Anglesey in 1648. He was M.P. for Shropshire in 1654, and died in 1656, and was buried in S. Chad's, Shrewsbury. His family was of importance in Shrewsbury as early as 1313, and had been settled at Halston since about 1560.

Andrew Lloyd of Aston became a Colonel in the Parliamentary army, and was elected by a meeting of freeholders convened at Oswestry by the Parliamentary Sheriff, Thomas Mytton, to succeed Sir Richard Lee, a Royalist, as M.P. for Shropshire; but Mytton suddenly

adjourned the meeting to Alberbury, and there got a number of people who were not freeholders to elect a Mr. Edwards, a relation of his own. So at least says a petition to Parliament, a copy of which is at Aston; the date must have been 1645, as it was in that year that Mytton was sheriff. Sir Richard Lee had been captured in Shrewsbury in February, 1644-5, and after that event Mr. Lloyd had done his best to prevent Mytton from being appointed, as he wished, to be Governor of the town. It appears from some papers at Boreatton that Andrew Lloyd and his brother, and a number of other persons, went to hunt deer in Boreatton Park about 1666, and were there met by some keepers, who shot at them, and Mr. Lloyd was killed. A legal inquiry followed, but the result is not stated. Boreatton had by that time become the property of Mr. Lloyd's former colleague, Col. Hunt. Mr. Lloyd married a daughter of Thomas Powell of Park, and left several children; but the present family of Aston are descended from him in the female line only.

Robert Clive of Stiche is said to have been a member of the Long Parliament, but was not an original member. He must have been an active Roundhead, for the Royalists of Shrewsbury are said to have added the following clause to their Litany:—

> From Wem and from Wyche
> And from Clive of the Stiche
> Good Lord deliver us.

Wem and Nantwich were Parliamentary garrisons. Robert Clive, however, must have overcome his republican tendencies, for he was Sheriff of the County in 1674. He was an ancestor of the present Earl of Powis.

Robert Charleton was uncle of the owner of Apley, who was a minor, and whose mother had married one Thomas Hanmer, and held Apley Castle for the King.

Thomas Hunt was son of Richard Hunt, who had been three times Bailiff of Shrewsbury, and who was the fourth of the twenty-four Aldermen of Shrewsbury

nominated by the King in June, 1638. It is curious that in that list his name is immediately preceded by that of Hugh Harris, fourth son of Sir Thomas Harris of Boreatton, the estate in which the Hunts were to supplant the Harrises. Thomas Hunt was a Captain of the Militia in 1642, and had by that time become an Alderman of Shrewsbury, but, as mentioned above, he was expelled from that office. In 1643 he assisted Mackworth and Mytton to establish at Wem the first garrison the Parliament had in this county. In 1645, after the capture of Shrewsbury by the Parliament, he was restored to his office of Alderman, and in November of that year was declared to be M.P. for Shrewsbury, in place of the duly elected member, Francis Newport, who was a Royalist. On the death of Humphrey Mackworth in December, 1654, Col. Hunt was made Governor of Shrewsbury. In the following March Sir Thomas Harris appointed a rendezvous at Boreatton of a party who were to surprise Shrewsbury and hold it for Charles II., but the plot was discovered, and Sir Thomas was seized. He had been previously captured by the Parliament in Shrewsbury in 1644, and he and his widowed mother (for his father, Sir Paul, had died that same year) had then had to compound for their estate by a fine of £1,542. Probably this plot of 1655 ruined him, though he was not put to death for it, for shortly afterwards the Boreatton estate passed into the hands of Col. Hunt. The conveyance is dated 1663. Col. Hunt was Sheriff of Shropshire in 1656, and Mayor of Shrewsbury in 1657, and he died in that town in 1669. The Harris baronetcy became extinct in 1685. Boreatton is still owned by the descendants of Thomas Hunt, but Baschurch School still has an endowment given to it by the Harris family.

Leighton Owen was son of Mr. Robert Owen of Woodhouse, by his third wife, Mary, daughter of Thomas Leighton of Wattlesborough, through whom he obtained the estate of Braginton, in the parish of Alberbury. He was a captain in the Parliamentary

army, and became a Commissioner under the Act of February, 1649-50, "for better Propagation and Preaching the Gospel in Wales, ejecting Scandalous Ministers and Schoolmasters, and Redress of some Grievances." He left only daughters, co-heiresses, one of whom married one Edward Griffiths of Old Marton, in the parish of Whittington, and their grandson Samuel Griffiths was Sheriff of Shropshire in 1759.

The Committee of Sequestrations, then, or Committee of Parliament, as it was often called, for Shropshire, seems to have consisted of these persons ;—

Sir John Corbet, Bart., of Stoke and Adderley,
Thomas Mytton of Halston,
Humphrey Mackworth of Betton Strange,
Thomas Nicolls of Boycott,
Samuel More of Linley,
Andrew Lloyd of Aston,
Robert Clive of Stiche,
Robert Charlton of Apley,
Thomas Hunt, afterwards of Boreatton,
Leighton Owen of Braginton.

All of them were men of high standing, and nearly all were of good old county families. All except Mackworth and Nicolls are represented among the county families at the present day.

Some of the facts stated in this paper about the Lloyds of Aston and Hunts of Boreatton are from private sources. The authorities for the rest of the paper, except the letter with which it begins, are Owen and Blakeway's *Shrewsbury, The Sheriffs of Shropshire*, Burke's *Peerage* and *Landed Gentry*, Rushworth's *Hist. Collections*, Scobell's *Acts of Parliament*, and Mrs. Stackhouse Acton's *Garrisons of Shropshire.*

THE OTTLEY PAPERS RELATING TO THE CIVIL WAR.

Edited by WILLIAM PHILLIPS.

PREFACE.

By the kindness of Colonel Cotes, of Pitchford, I have had the loan of a book, in MS., containing copies of a large number of original letters and papers addressed to Sir Francis Ottley, Knight, formerly Governor of Shrewsbury, and others, during and subsequent to the Civil War, preserved in the Pitchford muniments. The authors of the "History of Shrewsbury," Owen and Blakeway, inform us that "these papers had been communicated to Carte, who quoted them at iv., 455, but made little use of them. They form a most interesting folio volume, for the use of which we are indebted to the Honourable Cecil Jenkinson, M.P., of Pitchford." These local historians, however, being limited for space, and compelled to confine themselves chiefly to the history of the town, were unable to make more than a very limited use of them, and hence they have remained comparatively unknown to Salopians. In 1838 J. G. Nicholls printed a large number in his "Collectanea Topographica et Genealogica," from transcripts made by the late George Morris, of Shrewsbury, accompanied by brief but valuable notes contributed by the transcriber. But, inasmuch as this work is expensive, and possessed by few, it is thought desirable that a complete collection should be printed in these *Transactions*.

I would express my thanks to Colonel Cotes for his kind permission to print these interesting documents, and also to Mr. H. W. Adnitt, of Shrewsbury, for lending me George Morris's original transcripts and notes, which have saved me much additional trouble.

Canonbury,
Shrewsbury,
July 30th, 1893.

Mr. Morris's notes are denoted by his initials—G.M.

Sir Francis Ottley, Knight.

Francis Ottley, of Pitchford, Salop, Esq., was the eldest son of Thomas Ottley, of the same place, Esq., by Mary, daughter of Roger Gifford, M.D.,co. Buckingham. He was born 1601, entered Shrewsbury School at the age of ten, and was admitted of Lincoln College, Oxford, 1618. He was fourth in descent from William Ottley, Esq., of Pitchford, Sheriff in 1500, whose father, Thomas Ottley, was third son of Phillip Ottley, lord of the manor of Oteley, near Ellesmere. Thomas, being a younger son, embarked in business in Shrewsbury, in the clothing trade, became a merchant of the Staple of Calais, and being eminently successful, purchased Pitchford in 1473, and founded that branch of the family of which Francis Ottley became so distinguished a member. In 1624 Mr. Francis Ottley married Lucy, daughter of Thomas Edwards, Esq., of the College, Shrewsbury, widow of Thomas Pope, she being eight years his senior, by whom he had three sons and a daughter. Charles I. ascended the throne the same year that Mr. Ottley married Mrs. Pope, and the King and he were within one year of being the same age. The state of public feeling regarding the restrictions imposed upon the King by the Commons, and the resistance he offered to those restrictions, divided the nation into two hostile parties,

and every man had to make his choice of King or Parliament. Mr. Ottley was an uncompromising royalist. In 1642 when the affairs of the King assumed so serious a turn, and it became necessary to secure his position in the provinces, he selected Mr. Ottley, as one in whom he could trust, to raise a regiment of two hundred foot. The commission is dated Sept. 10, 1642. Seven days later, another commission dated from Stafford commanded Mr. Ottley to employ this force in securing Shrewsbury "in these times of distraccion, against all assaults, surprise, or attempt, which may bee made against the same." How long after this the honour of knighthood was conferred upon him has never yet been determined, but it was certainly within this same month of September. The King having paid his memorable visit to Shrewsbury, where he received such a loyal welcome, he conferred a further honour on Sir Francis Ottley, by appointing him Governor of the town, which post he held till 1644, when, having voluntarily relinquished it, he was appointed to the more honourable office of High Sheriff, for the year 1645. He continued to serve the royal cause with unswerving fidelity, was taken prisoner at the battle of Worcester, and had to compound for his estate by the payment of £1,200. He died in London, Sept. 1, 1649.

THE OTTLEY PAPERS.

I. R. BROWNE TO FRANCIS OTTLEY.

1641.

Sir,

Having often writt unto you of many matters in Question but nothing perfected; I am now Ambitious to be the first Messenger that shall inform you of that you have so long expected, and, withall, to give your Worship many thanks for your undeserved Bountie, and shall studie some service that may be acceptable in part of a Merritt. May it, therefore, please you to understand that now it is concluded that the

Lord deputie, (about whom there hath been so much time bestowed) shall dye tomorrow upon Tower Hill in the view of the whole world. The King, in regard of some promise that he had made to him to save his life, was very unwilling to sett his hand to the Warrant for his execution, yet, in regard he was so hard pressed thereto by the Parlam^{t}, and seeing the Citizens to be so eagar of it as that they would not be denied, and seeing many other dangers that have lately been discovered, he did condecend and sign it upon Monday Morning last, and then did also give the Parlam^{t} free leave to sit for two whole Years, and to do what they pleased for the Governm^{t} of the State; and if they did mislike any of his Officers or Serv^{ts} they should at their pleasure and discretion put in others, to chuse a new Lord Deputie for Ireland, and another man in the Lord Cottingtons place, being the Master of the Court of Wards, who is returned into the Country, and resigned his place; or whatsoever else they please to do in that time he will not contradict; upon Tuesday the last week there was strange Matters discovered to the Parlam^{t}, how as yet is not Certainly known; it's said by a Captain out of the North who sent them Word that the harte of our Armie was taken from them, and if they pleased to send for him he could discover more; certain it is there was some damnable conspiracie intended agst the State, in which there is already a great Company known to have been [concerned], it is said 50 at least, for which some are already fledd, as the Lord of Carnarvon; Mr. Henry Percie, the Earl of Northumberland's Brother, and a great favourite of the King's; Mr. Henry Jermyn the Queen's great favourite, a man looked upon by the whole Court, and every thing approved being done by him; also S^{r} John Sukling; one Cap^{t} Davenant; Cap^{t} Billingsley, and others. All these went away upon Wednesday last; tis thought the Queen had an intent to have gotten into France, and to that purpose had sent away her things to Portsmouth, p'tending to have a desire to see that town, and to live there for a while, she having a House not far from thence; she is now confined to Whitehall, and there hath been discovered a great deal of Plate and Jewels that she had conveyed to Portsmouth, where it is now stay'd: what this Plot shou'd be is not yet known, it is said an intent to bring in foreign Powers to Govern all parts of this Realme, intending to reduce it to popery; but of this you shall hear more hereafter; We have lost a brave Peer, the Earl of Bedford, who dyed some 5 or 6 days since of the small Pox; Secretary Windebank hath petitioned to the Parlm^{t} that he may have liberty to come over again, and doth promise to

discover strange Plotts and Stratagems against this state; tis said he is coming only stays for a Wind; this day the Sheriff of London had a Writt sent him for the Execu'n of the deputie tomorrow, when there is expected some great discovery from him who, as it is thought, should have been General of these Young Gallants that are gone: this being all at this time I humblie take my leave but remain,

Your Worpp' Servant

London to command,

11th May, 1641. Ro. Browne.

This day the King sent a letter to the Parlaim' by the Prince for stay of Execu[n] of the deputie some certain days; divers of the Lords went to the King and told him how dangerous it might be to the State, and that they durst not assent unto it, and told him that he knew the Londoners, if Justice might take place, had Offered to give £80,000, and to lend within a month £400,000, and the House of Commons would assent to grant 8 more subsidies; the King told them that it troubled his conscience censure (*sic.*) whether he had committed Treason or not; some say his Majestie wept &c.

But tis certainlie conceived that he will be executed to-morrow.[1]

To the Wor[ll] Francis Ottley, Esq., at the Colledge in Shrewsbury, these del.

II. THE SAME TO THE SAME.

1642.

Sir,

I have here inclosed sent you his Maj[ties] Answer to the Petition of the Parliament which I sent . . . weeks, now both the Petition and Answer are put . . . : books, also the passages that happened at Hull, the Parli[t] doth Justifie Sir John Hotham in all which he hath done and had £2,000 presently sent him to be disposed of amongst the Garrison as he should think fitt. S[r] . . . Dorrill is sent for for stopping some Messengers between Hull and the Parlia[t] tis concluded we shall have a Synod and there are Ministers p'sented 2 for every Countie by the Knights and Burgesses of the said Counties a list of their names is here inclosed, upon Friday

[1] Stafford was beheaded on Tower Hill, May 12, 1641. His last words were: "Put not your trust in Princes."

last the Kentish men came into London with their Petition, of which I have formerly sent you a Copie it being verbatim with that they delivered, their meeting was upon Black Heath where there met a very great Company but came not above 240 into the City having intelligence of their coming raised 2 trained Bands to Guard London Bridge, which they did and wou'd not suffer them to pass over untill every man did lay down his Sword which they did, and came along the City being most of them very Gallant Gentlemen well clad and well Horsed, only one disaster happened, that the Gent. M^{r} Lovelis that carried the Petition in his Hand, his Horse Stumbled and fell down under him, now tis commonly reported that the Petition fell down and in the Kennel, but neither he fell nor the Petition, nor lost his Hat of his head, but saved himself well and was quickly up again, notwithstanding it was a foul blur unto him, the House hearing that they were come into the City, and were coming to the House with their Petition p'sently Adjourned the House till the next Morning, notwithstanding the Gent. lay at that end of the Town (or the Major part of them) that night, and next morning went to the House with their Petition, which the House did so well like as . . they committed 2 or 3 of the chiefest Agents to the Tower, as S^{r} William Butele M^{r} Lovelies &c., there is another Petition coming up very shortly out of the same Countie to cross this Petition alsoe his Maj^{tie} sent for the chief Gents. of the Countie of York about him to advise with them what was to be done for raising of Strength . . . parts to do his Maje^{tie} Service, where Sir Francis . . . began and divers others drawing their swords to . . . . but the Major part concluded and told his Maj^{tie} they would lay down their Lives and Estates to do his Majest^{ie} Service but they might . . . . . to make a difference between his Majestie . . . . . there are two members . . . of common . . . . give Those Gentlemen many . . . . . their Fidelitie, the Scotts tell the King absolutely . . . . comply with his Parlim^{t} and that his Majes^{tie} must not look for any Assistance from them, but they must stick to the Parlim^{t}, we hear dayly of very good News from Ireland and of Great overthrows that are dayly given to the Rebels.

Yo^{r} Servant

London 3 May, 1642. Ro: Browne.

To the Wor^{ll} Francis Otley Esq at the Colledge in Shrewsbury Salop These present.

The above two letters are those referred to by the historians of Shrewsbury in the following words :—

Before the introduction of newspapers, the only mode by which intelligence could be procured was by engaging the services of some person in London to write an occasional *letter of news*. One of these, from Mr. Ottley's correspondent, has been preserved, and contains so lively a picture of a most important crisis at the commencement of the period to which the present chapter refers, that we should willingly have introduced it in this place if our limits had not forbidden its insertion. O. & B., i., p. 430. It will be seen that these authors were ignorant of a second letter.

III. COMMISSIONS AND LETTERS FROM THE KING AND GENERALS TO FRANCIS OTTLEY AND OTHERS.

1642.

Instructions for our dearest sone Prince Charles And for our right Trusty and right wellbeloved Cozens and Councellors Thomas Earl of Arundell, John Earl of Bridgwater, our right trusty and well beloved Robert Viscount Kilmurry, William Lord Craven, Edward Lord Herbert, and our trusty and well beloved the Sheriffe and the other Comissioners in our Comission of Array for our County of Salop.

CHARLES R.

Whereas we have named you Comissioners in our Comission of Array for the County of Salop, and thereby give you several powers for the Arrayinge Trayninge Armingo leadinge and Conductinge of the Inhabitants of our said County, as by our said Comission, which we herewith send you, Appeareth.

Our will and pleasure is, and we charge and require you, that you, or three or more of you, doe forthwith send out your warrant to the Sheriffe of our said County for Summoningo the Inhabitants of our said County according to the said Comission, neverthelesse, being unwilling in our Princly care of our people to bring any increase of Charge upon them, wee hope for the present it wil be sufficient if only the Ancient Traynes and freehould bands of the County be Summoned and Trayned, you taking speciall care that they be well Arrayed and the number supplyed with sufficient and able persons and under the Conduct of such Captaynes that are

persons of qualitie honor considerable Estates and Interest in the Countrey and not Straingers unless you find it shal be well pleasing to our people, and for the necessary defence of the Countrey, to make an augmentation of theire Armes.

And you are to take notice that Recusants being disabled by law to bear Arms are to be Assesed to find Arms for other men. And if their Tenants that are protestants beare Armes you are to receive them.

For the better knowledge of your particular duties herein you are all to take Coppies of these our instructions, and to take Transcripts of our said Comission, the original to remayne with one of those of the Quorum; and your proceedings herein we expect speedy and plenary Accompt. Given at our Court at York the 22nd day of June in the Eighteenth year of our Raigne.

IV. THOMAS FOWLER TO FRANCIS OTTLEY.

1642.

S^{r}—This Bearer d'd me yo^{r} l're this night, being Fryday night, with the protestation, the subscriptions unto w^{ch} I will promote what I can, & will return it by the time limited, though I must say therein we are something straighten'd; I fear many of my Neighbours have taken infection lately; Yet this Draught is so cleare, that (mee thinks) few should scruple the under writing of it. I will do what I can in it, and so I rest,

Yo^{rs} S^{r} to serve you,

THOMAS FOWLER.[1]

Whitchurch, Aug. 19th 1642.

To my much honor'd Friend Francis Oteley, Esq^{r} at the Colledge in Salop, p'sent these.

The "protestation, the subscription unto which" Mr. Fowler promises to promote, was that drawn up by the Grand Jury at the Shrewsbury Assizes, on the 8th of August, which expressed their "unanimous and thankful acknowledgements of the good laws, which through the King's goodness, had been enacted in this parlia-

[1] Of Harnage Grange. He married a daughter of Lord Liverpool, and by her was father of Sir William Fowler, created Baronet Nov. 1, 1704.—G.M.

ment; their readiness to obey his Majesty in all lawful ways for putting the country in a posture of arms for his defence; and their resolution to adventure their lives and fortunes in defence of his royal and sacred person." It was largely subscribed to at the time, and "abundance more subscribed afterwards."—*Vide* O. & B., i. p. 417.

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V. WILLIAM PYGOTT TO THE SAME.

1642.

S^r^,

I will, if God spare life, wait upon my Father Pygott to Salop upon Wednesday next, and be ready at the Place and time Appointed to meet my Brother, with as many of my neighbouring Ministers[1] as I can procure, and, in the mean while, as I have already, so I shall endeavour still to advance the remonstrance of this County with as many hands as I can: thus with my service presented I rest,

Your very loving and respective
Friend,

Edgmond Aug^st^ 21, 1642.

WILLIA.[2]

To the Wor^ll^ my much respected
Friend Mr. Francis Ottley, Salop,
these present.

VI. RIC. AWNSHAM TO THE SAME.

1642.

NOBLE FRIEND,

I have acquainted Sir Robert Howard[3] my Honourable Patron with the Contents of your letter, who rejoyceth much

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[1] This was a meeting of the clergy in Shrewsbury to form an Association, for which they were severely threatened by the two Houses of Parliament.

[2] In the Parish Register of Chetwynd, under date, 1645, is recorded the burial of William Pigott, son of Thomas Pigott of Chetwynd, whom I suppose to be the man who wrote this letter; and his father, the Thomas Pfgott of Chetwin, gent., who compounded for his estate by paying £440.

[3] Sir Robert Howard, of Clun Castle, co. Salop, Knight, 5th son of Thomas Howard, Earl of Suffolk, from whom he had that portion of the Shropshire property given him. He adhered firmly to his Sovereign, was Colonel of a Regiment of Dragoons, and had to pay for his exertions in the Royal cause £942 4s. 0d.—G. M.

to see you so cordiall in his Ma^ties service, and his Hono^r giveth you thanks for your care and paynes therein; and according to your desyre he will advance the Cause as farr as in him lyeth, and will, God willing, be at Salop on Wednesday, though he is not in very good case to travel for the present, for he hath not been out of his Bed since Saturday was seven night; thus in hast I rest,

S^r, Yo^r humble Servant,

Hopesay: Aug. 22°. RIC. AWNSHAM.[1]

1642. To my honored Freind,
Francis Ottley, Esq^r,
These.

VII. FRA. NEWPORT TO THE SAME.

1642.

SIR,

I desir'd D^r Smith to wryte y^u worde y^t I did intende then to bee at Shrewsbury on Wednesday next, but I have met w^th occasions since, that make it doubtfull, &, therefore, understanding y^t y^u have a desire to speake w^th mee, I have now sent to y^u to lett y^u know y^t I will meet y^u to-day eyther at Tom Eyton's,[2] or at a little blind Alehouse in the longe-wood[3] (the mans name is Purslow), w^ch y^u find best for y^r conveniency, I shall bee at eyther place by 4 a Clock in the afternoon, pray send me an answeare whether y^ul come or noe, & if y^u doe, w^ch of the 2 places before named y^u will come to, & y^u shall there find,

Sir,

Y^r Affectionate friend

High Ercall, Aug. 23^th & servant,

1642, Tuesday Morning. FRA NEWPORT.[4]

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[1] Rev. Richard Awnsham (or Ansham), was chaplain to a Regiment of Dragoons under the command of Sir Robert Howard, Knight.

[2] Afterwards Sir Thomas Eyton, Knt., of Eyton-upon-the-Wild-moors, near Wellington, where the family have resided nearly from the Conquest. His activity and zeal in the cause of his Sovereign were compounded for by the payment of £976. He was buried at Wellington, March 24th, 1658.—G. M.

[3] Still called Longswood, and derives its name from an extensive wood then in existence, situate in the parish of Long, now generally called Longdon-upon-Tern.—G. M.

[4] Francis Newport, eldest son of Sir Richard Newport, 1st Baron Newport, of High Ercall. Francis generally resided at Eyton-upon-Severn, in the parish of Wroxeter. He represented the borough of Shrewsbury in the "Short Parliament" of 1640, and in the "Long

Sir,

I make choise of y^e^ places before mentioned as the most secret ones I know of.

To my much esteemed kinsman
Captaine Francis Oately,
in Shrewsbury.
these

VIII. JOHN WELD TO THE SAME.

1642.

Noble captaine, I find by concurrent advertisments that it is full time for Shrewsbury, and other parts of this County, to be vigilent. S^r^ I shall rely uppon your care for the safty of that place, if you suppose you want helpe you shall want none that I am able to afford you. I wish some of my neighbours here abouts were as well minded as you; I resolve to try them. I have already given my best advise to Bridgnorth, and I think they will follow it, and so desireing to hear from you as often as you find occasion, with all our loving respects remembered unto you, I rest,

Y^r^ Servant,

Willey, 29 August, 1642. JOHN WELD.[1]

Parliament" which met November the 3rd the same year, being then only 21 years old. He was ardently attached to the Royal Cause, was one of the few members who voted for the acquittal of Lord Strafford, soon after which he was expelled from the house as a *malignant*. He was taken prisoner at Oswestry on the capture of that town June 22nd, 1644, and was with his father severely punished for his loyalty; his composition was £5,284, and his father's £3,287 6s. 8d. exclusive of £170 per annum settled. In 1694 he was advanced to the dignity of Earl of Bradford. In the chancel of Wroxeter Church, where he was buried, is a handsome mural monument to his memory, from which it appears that in 1668 he was made Comptroller of the King's household; in 1672 Treasurer of the same, from which he was displaced in 1680, "because he refused to have the established laws changed; so great was his innate zeal for the Church of England." In 1688 he was again "Treasurer and Cofferer to King William and Queen Mary," and was Privy Counsellor to Charles II., James II., William and Mary, and Anne; Lord Lieutenant of the county of Salop, and Keeper of the Rolls. He was born Feb. 23rd, 1619, and died September the 19th, 1708, in the 89th year of his age.—G.M.

[1] John Weld, of Willey, Esq., which he purchased from Francis Lacon, of Kinlet. He was Town Clerk of London, and at the period

S^r.—I pray peruse this enclosed coppy of a letter sent to S^r Francis Kinarston, and shew it to S^r Vincent Corbet, and Mr. Eiton. I doubt not of their care, seing the dangers are so apparent. I have sent coppyes to S^r Rich. Lee, Captaine Screven, and to Captaine Lloyd, and I shall this day speak with S^r Tho. Woldridge.

To my Honored freind,
ffrancis Oatley, Esquire.
present these.

IX. THOMAS EYTON (?) TO THE SAME.

1642.

Cosen Franke,

Though you Failed me at Morton Corbett in my way, I hope better of you now I am returned from Nottingham. I hear you are going yourself to-morrow from whence I came, lett me by all means speak with you, for I have a dispatch to you from the King & must impart unto you what I have already done, and how you must Apply yourself at Court, if you expect any good Issue, For never had Prince more Traytors about his Person, and good Intentions ingured by misinterpretations; I pray fail not to meet me at Atcham bridge, or Jack Dawes's House an Ale house over the way, by seven A clock tomorrow morning: this 4th I rest.

S^r Your Kinsman[1]

To my much honour'd Kinsman
Francis Otley Esq^r at his house in Salop,
present these.

X. EDWARD HYDE TO THE SAME.

1642.

Sir,[2]

I acquainted his Maj^ty with your very good letter and [have]. . . . a speciall commande from him (besydes

in question High Sheriff of co. Salop; was afterwards Knighted, and with his son Sir John Weld, junior, taken prisoner at the capture of Shrewsbury, February 22nd, 1645. He and his son had to pay heavy compensation for their loyalty, his being £1,121 18s. 4d., and his son's £757 2s. 0d. He died November 6th, 1666. The late Cardinal Weld was descended from Sir Humphrey Weld, younger brother of this Sir John Weld, who, in some of the letters is called Sir John Wilde.—G.M.

[1] This is probably Thomas Eyton, before noticed.

[2] Part of this letter, but erroneously dated the 18th, appears in the *History of Shrewsbury*, vol. i., p. 418, note 3.—G.M.

writinge to Mr. Mayor) to. . . . .[1] a particular addresse to you, as to a person his Maj[ty] ownes the. . . . vinge much Service from, having been before informed of your greate . . . . & Industry in his Service. I assure you he has a very greate sens. . . . . and that he may prevent any inconveniences which may prejudice t[he affec]tiones of that place he hath so much reguarde of he resolves to visit, sooner then he meant, that is, before he goes to Chester, and. . . . unexpected accident divert him, he intends to be with you on T. . . . next, otherwise you will be sure to receive some ayde of horse and foot from him. But of this you shall receive seasonable and publique intimation; I shall be very glad to have any oppertunity to let you know how much I am,

S[r] Your very affectionate
humble serv[t]

EDW: HYDE.[2]

Uxiter this 10[th] of 7 ber.
To My Worthy Friend S[r] ffrancis Ottley K[t] [3]
at his house in Shrewsbury these.

XI. THE KING TO THE SAME.

1642.

CHARLES R.

Charles by the grace of God King of Greate Britaine ffrance and Ireland defender of the ffaith &c. To our trusty and welbeloved ffrancis Ottley, of our County of Salop, Esq[r]. greeting; whereas there are now at and near our Citty of London great fforces leavying, and Moneys raising by way of contribution and otherwise, towards the Charge of raising and maintaining an Army or fforce by order of our two houses of Parliam[t] not only without our consent, but contrary to severall expresse commands published by severall proclemations,

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[1] The omissions are caused by part of the letter being torn off and missing.—G.M.

[2] Afterwards Earl of Clarendon.

[3] Although Hyde addresses him as "Sir Francis," there is a royal letter of the same date as this (10th Sept.) from Nottingham, in which he is called "our trusty and welbeloved ffrancis Ottley." Still more strange, another royal letter dated at Stafford seven days later (17 Sept.) in which he is called "Francis Ottley, Esq." Can it be that the writer, knowing the King's mind, anticipated the official creation?

Letters and Otherwise; and the same fforces are Actually in so much forwardness, as that there are great numbers both of Horse and ffoote raised and marched into divers parts of our Kingdome, and a Generall and other principall Officers declared over the same: w^ch^ Army and fforces what Effects and Consequences they may produce, if tymely care be not had, we know not: And therefore for the defence of our Royall Person, the two houses of Parliam^t^, the Protestant Religion, the laws of the Land, the Liberty and property of the Subject, and priviledge of Parliam^t^, we have present occasion to have in readiness divers Regim^ts^, and Companies of ffoote, well Armed and furnished with all things, necessary for such our service, to be imployed for these purposes in such sort as we under our Royal Hand shall direct in due form of Lawe. We, trusting to your fidelity, diligence, and dexterity in such Affairs, and intending to imploy you for such our service according to such directions as we shall give unto you, doe by these presents will and require you, and doe give unto you full power and authority for us and in our name, and for our Service, as aforesaid, to impress, raise, enroll, and retaine one Companie of two hundred ffoote, so furnished and Armed as aforesaid, wheresoever you shall be able within this our Kingdome of England and Dominion of Walles, who [shall] willingly and voluntarily serve us, as aforesaid for such Wages and entertainement by the Moneth, Weeke, or day, or for a longer or shorter tyme, as you, on our behalf, and they, shall Agree; and Whatsoever you shall do herein for us, and on our behalf we do promise to Allow of and Confirm. And, further, to give unto you full power and Authority as Commander, them to Arme, discipline, traine, Command, and in Warlike manner Order; and make Officers under you over the same, and with all possible expedition to conduct into our Towne of Shrewsbury, where we doubt not you will be well received, there to remaine as a Guard for the better Securing the said Towne, as well for the safety of the Inhabitants, as for our service, to resist and keepe out all forces that shall Attempt to enter the same by any Authority whatsoever not testified under our Royall signature. Willing and commanding all Officers and Soldiers w^ch^ by Virtue hereof you shall retaine, you to Obey, and readily to receive and accomplish your directions, commandments, and summons, in all things hereto Appertaining, or necessary to be done: as Also all Maiors, Sheriffs, Justices of the Peace, Commissioners of Array, and all other our Officers and Loving Subjects to be Ayding and Assisting herein, both unto you, and to all such

Officers and other persons whom you shall appoint under your hand and seal for the furthering and Advancem^{t} of this our especiall Service; for the w^{ch} these shall be to you, and to them, and to every of them, a sufficient warrant: given under our Signe Mannuall at our Court at Nottingham this Tenth day of September in the Eighteenth yeare of our Reigne, 1642.[1]

XII. THO. HANMER TO THE SAME.

1642.

VERTUOUS SIR,

I shall entreat the favour of you to give me the meeting tomorrow at Ellesmere by Eleven of the Clock, my business cannot be well committed to paper, and my present Employments are so pressing that I have not liberty to come to Shrewsbury, otherwise I should not so farr have troubled you, I shall give also then an Account of such intelligence as I have from Nottingham, My servant cam from thence Yesternight so in hast I rest,

Yo^{r} Affectionate Friend & Servant,

THO: HANMER.[2]

Overton, Sunday 11th Sept. 1642.

To my worthy friend Francis Oteley, Esq.; at his house the Colledge in Shrewsbury.

XIII. R. HERBERT TO THE SAME.

1642.

DEARE FRANKE,

I recy'd y^{r} letter late this night, but not so late as to make me forget either my thankfullness, or ye Account of what I know. The Kinge moves this way, and by a letter I had from him this morning all terms of peace are relinquished by the Parliament, and I myself com'anded to hasten y^{e} levy$_{s}$ of my Regim^{t} and to make Shrewsbury my Rendevous. B$_{e}$

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[1] Noticed in the *History of Shrewsbury*, v. i., page 418, but erroneously dated September 4th. His Commission under the Sign Manuel for the command of the above is dated "From our Court of Stafford the seventeenth day of September."—G.M. See the Commission to follow.

[2] He was probably Sir Thomas Hanmer, second Baronet, who was M.P. for Flint 1640, and commanded a regiment of horse under Lord Digby on the royalist side. He died in 1678. (*Vide* Alumni Oxonienses *sub. nom.*)

advised if w^th^ 500 men Itt be safe with the force and strength y^u^ have in y^r^ Towne, for me to strengthe and searve [? secure] ye place. I have not yet beaten my Drums, but shall this weeke; and in honnor Shropshire must assist in their contributions. I sent to y^r^ high Sheriff, and S^r^ R. Lee,[1] and must of all favers desire your Companie at Whitchurch uppon Fryday next. y^e^ Roundheads pray y^t^ 7 or 8 dayes were over, for then another Army would be formed (as they give out) to visitt these parts. The advise for scouts and intelligence, those of drajoney for y^e^ borders, are all of a high concernment; but above all to oppress in y^e^ reputation of a multitude, if not y^e^ quality and number of Arms: they beat us more in y^e^ impression of fables, ... and beleved among comon people, then any open force can prevaile. Be strong in y^r^ own designation, and as happy as my wishes and prayers can make you.

Y^r^ faithfull

Montg^r^ R. HERBERT.[2]
13° 7ber
1642.

To my much honord kinsman
Francis Otley Esq. at his house in Salop
present these.

XIV. THE KING TO THE SAME.

1642.

CHARLES R.

Charles by the grace of God King of England, Scotland, France, and Ireland, defender of the ffaith, &c. To our Trusty and welbeloved Francis Oateley, Esq^r^, greeting. Whereas, out of our tender care of the peace and welfaare of our good Subjects w^th^in our Towne of Shrewsbury, w^ch^ we shall endeavour to preserve, wee have thought good to commit to you y^e^ charge of a Company of Voluntiers already raised, or to be

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[1] Sir Richard Lee of Langley and of Acton Burnell, Knight and Baronet, Sheriff of the County of Salop 1639, and Knight of the Shire 1646. He was among the prisoners taken at the capture of Shrewsbury, and expiated his loyalty by the payment of £3,719 13s. 4d., with £169 9s. 0d. *per annum*, settled. He died about a month before the restoration.—G. M.

[2] This was Richard Herbert, second Lord Herbert of Chirbury. He was a Colonel in the King's service, raised a full regiment of foot, and a troop of horse, at his own expense, and compounded for his estate by payment of £1000.—G. M.

raised, w^th^in our said Towne, or elsewhere, for secureing y^e^ same in these times of distraccion, against all Assaults, surprise, or Attempt w^ch^ may bee made against the same. Our Will and Command, therefore, is, and wee doe hereby authorise you to take y^e^ said Company of Volunteers into your Charge, and them to Command, Traine, discipline, and exercise, as their Captaine and Leader: Willing and Commanding the said Soldiers to bee obedient, and ready to receive and accomplish y^r^ direccions, Commandm^ts^ and Summons, of yo^u^, their Captaine, and of the Officers you shall appoint under yo^u^ in all things w^ch^ shall concerne, and bee for the preservacion of our said Towne, and our good Subjects inhabiting there. And for soe doing, this o^r^ Commission under o^r^ sign Mannual and Signet, shall bee y^r^ Sufficient Warrant: Given at o^r^ Court at Stafford the seventeenth day of September, in the Eighteenth year of our Reigne, 1642.

[Seal.]

XV. W. BLUNDEN TO SIR FRANCIS OTTLEY, KNIGHT.

1642.

WORTHY COSEN,

On Saturday last I was served with a precept fr^m^ the Sherife to appear at the quarter Sessions, for my part, if I had not been sworne bailife this day, and tomorrow I must take the service of other things belongin to the town, which things being to be performed I hope will be sufficient excuse, whome for my part am and will be ready as any subject his Maj^y^ hath to be imploy'd in what I may to my life. So with love you and my Lady, I rest,

Your Lo: Cosen

for the hands of his truly Affected Cosen Sir Francis Ottley, Knight this be dl'd.

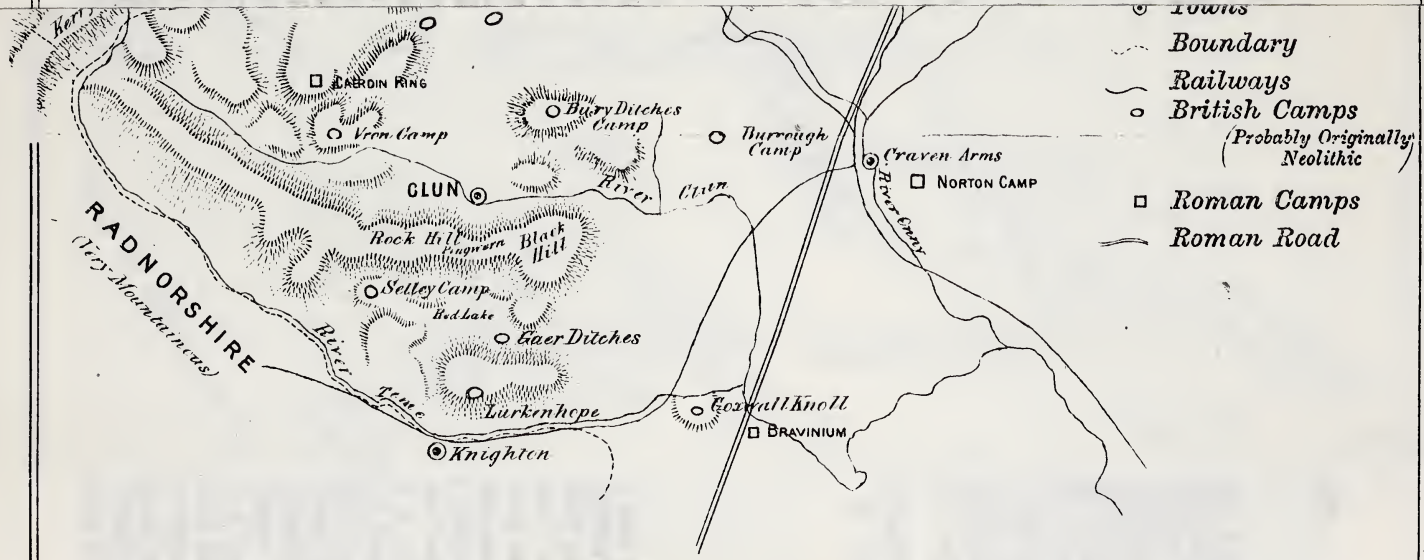
W. BLUNDEN.[1]

[1] Richard Blunden of Bishop's Castle, Esq., married (if I mistake not) Jane Ottley, an aunt of Sir Francis Ottley; and William Blunden was probably their son, hence a cousin to Sir Francis. We learn from an Order of the Corporation of that town that in conformity with a decision of the Association formed throughout the County of Salop for the prevention of "plundering of late so much exercised," William Blunden, Esquire, is given power to nominate "four able and sufficient inhabitants of the town of Bishop's Castle to provide four horses with riders, &c., at the general charge of the town." December 21, 18 Car. I. He is called Captain William Blunden in the Walcot papers at Bitterley Court, was elected bailiff of Bishop's Castle 1642, and died in office, a rather unusual event in the annals of that town.

CLUN

AND ITS

PROTECTING FORTRESSES



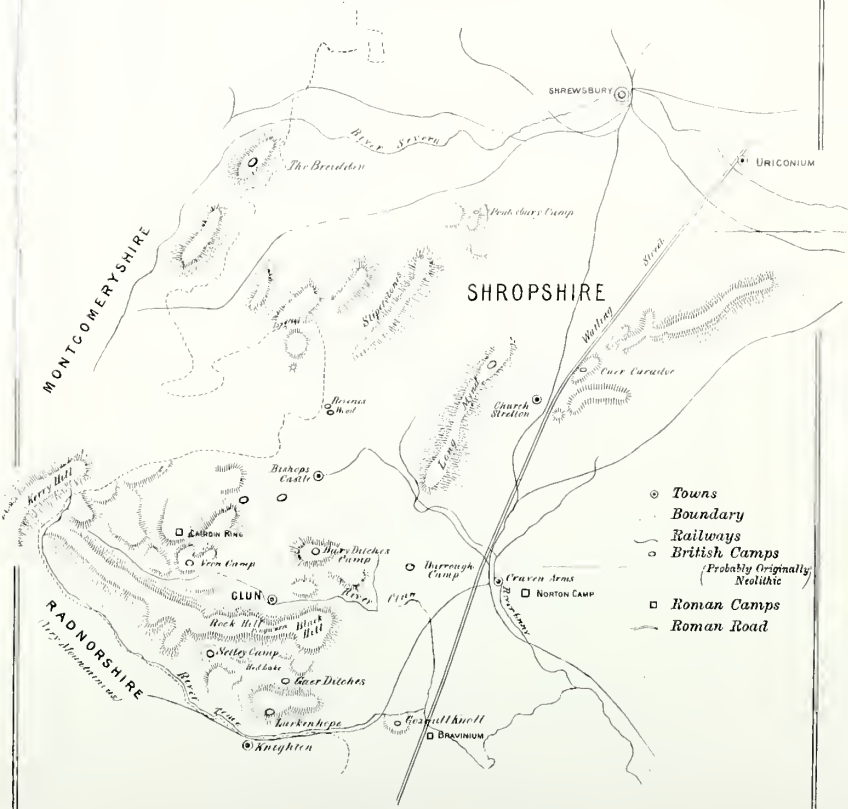
ADMITT & NAUNTON, LITHS. SALOP

CLUN

AND ITS

PROTECTING FORTRESSES

Scale 1 inch to the Mile



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XVI. W. BLUNDEN TO THE SAME.

1642.

SIR,

My desire is ever to Study to serve you: I had thought to have bine as this day in Sallop but by the return of some Soldiers of our towne of the trained bands, I found we needed not come tell further somons; therefore their return made me think that you were more Safe then I hard, which if otherwise you shall find that my life shall not be valued to do my King and Country service, and will be found both in my self and others that I have any power [over] . . . . to speak of I shall not be knowing how things stand, and if at any time I shall hear of inferior to the least ones for desiring you to favour me in the least com'and I will be ready: soe with my respects to the worthy lady I shall ever rest

at Your Service

W. BLUNDEN.

To the Right Wor[ll] his truly respected Cosen Sir Francis Ottley Knight give this.

XVII. R. CHOLMONDELEY.

1642.

GENTLEMEN,—I have receyved yor letters and fynd your propossicons to the gen'rall discrete and like yo[r]selves, I have conveyed them accordinge to yo[r] desires: I shall be willing in all occasions to serve you in all freindlie offices; I send these to acquainte you the occasion of our dispersing the trayned bands to theire own houses; it was partly in compassion to the people, it being now the heate of their Corne Harvest, principallie the Assurance of the Army at Coventrie was removed upwards, but, if the News be certayne that I am Credibly Informed by a Gentleman that came post out of London friday morning, wee had need not only to gather them into a body but w[th]all to rayse the greatest strength evry County is able to doe, for he saith my Lo: of Essex upon Thursday came to Barnett w[th] a greate armie, and diverse pieces of greate Ordinance, I also hear by a Gent: of my Lo: of Leasters, w[ch] came poast the same day from the Kinge, that his Ma[tie] is removed from Nottingham, and tis thought he tooke this way towards Salop. he is some thousand stronge of horse upon the list, and is about tenn thousand strong in all, and hath Ordinance sufficiente for a great Armie, and wants nothing but

foot w^ch^ daylie repayre more and more to him; fiefteene hundred of his horse are Dragouners, the rest pistoles and Carbynes. The Gent: hoped when the King came to Shrewsbury that my Lo: Marquis of Hartford[1] would meet him w^th^ eight hundred horse more; I shall intreate you, if you shall thinke good, to imparte the contents of this l're to the Comissioners of Mountgomry Shire, that soe we may all endeavoure to make the King as strong as possible may be; 2 of the Commissioners of Array shall not fayle to meete uppon friday next, and acquaynt you all those results we have upon Wensday: Gentlemen I pray you esteeme as of one ready to serve you.

R. Cholmondeley.[2]

[Sept. or Oct., 1642.—G. M.]

XVIII. THE KING TO SIR FRANCIS OTTLEY, KNT.

1642.

Charles R.

Whereas by reason of o^r^ sundrey and most important Occasions specially upon o^r^ present drawing out of this o^r^ Towne and County, together with the greatest part of o^r^ fforces there wilbe so much use of yo^r^ person and carefulness for y^e^ quietness and security of the same, as wee cannot think of sparing you out of this o^r^ County untill y^e^ pr'ent gen'all Distraccons shalbe better settled. Our expresse Will and Pleasure therefore is that you absent not yo^r^self, or desert yo^r^ residence in this o^r^ County, or faile of yo^r^ Uttermost endeavo^rs^ for ye

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[1] William Seymour, 1st Marquis of Hertford of the name, created Duke of Somerset Sept. 13, 1660, in which year he died.—G. M.

[2] George Morris considered that the writer of this letter was the first Viscount Cholmondeley. If so, he must have been Sir Robert Cholmondeley, created a Baronet 29th June 1611, and advanced in 1628 to the peerage of Ireland, in the dignity of Viscount Cholmondeley of Kells. His lordship was enrolled amongst the barons of England in 21st Charles I., as Lord Cholmondeley of Wiche Milbank, commonly called Namptwich; and further advanced the next year to the Earldom of Leinster. He married Catharine, daughter of John Lord Stanhope of Harrington, but died s.p. 2nd Oct., 1659, when his honours became extinct, but his estates passed to his nephew. (Burke's *Peerage*). He was High Sheriff of Cheshire 1620-21, zealous on the side of the King, and punished for his loyalty by the exaction of £7,742 as the composition for his estate. This letter was probably addressed to the Commissioners of Array for Shropshire, and certainly written about the 18th September.

peace and good of the same during o^{r} Absence, upon any pretence, order, Warrant, or Ordinance be it from one or both Houses of Parliam^{t}, or Other Whatsoever without first Obtaining o^{r} expresse Licence so to doe, as you tender o^{r} heavy Displeasure. And to the end you bee not forcibly constrained to goe of from this o^{r} Royall Com'and, We hereby will and require the high Sheriffe of this o^{r} County, all Maiors, Justices of Peace and other o^{r} Ministers and Officers of the same to be Ayding and assisting to you with requisite power for the defence and safeguard of y^{r} person family and Estate and every part thereof against all persons Whatsoever For w^{ch} this shalbe yo^{r} and their sufficient Warrant. Given under o^{r} signe Manual at o^{r} Court at Shrewsbury the 11th day of October in the Eighteenth year of o^{r} Reigne 1642.

To o^{r} trusty and welbeloved S^{r} Francis Oteley Knt.

XIX. EDW. HYDE TO THE SAME.

1642.

Sir,

If your man had enquired for me when he passed through this Towne (where his Ma^{ty} left me) in his journey to the Courte, he had sooner returned to you: concerning the managers of business at Shrewsbury, I can give you no particular direction, till I move the King in it. You have very ill luck if those parts are disquyett now his Ma^{ties} enemies are dryven so farr from you: I beseech you deliver this inclosed to the Mayor,[1] and advise with him about some fitt oppertunity to convey such monyes as remain in his handes for his Ma^{ty} to this place. sure by this time you have received a particular of the fight at Edge Hill, whence the enemyes remove to London in so poor a manner sufficiently expressed how great their loss was. The King hath since visited them as far as Brayneford [Brentford] and there hath defeated 3 of their best regiments taken 13 pieces of their ordinance and 600 prysoners: and now to shew the City how farr he is from the intention of entering that place with force he hath withdrawen his Army and is quartered at Redinge Henly, and himself means to winter about Oxforde, that if it be possible we may recover our witts agayne: there he will expect his Welsh and Western supplyes: I beseech you remember me very kindly to M^{r}

[1] John Studley, Esq. He was a member of the Drapers' Company of Shrewsbury, and head of a family long resident and still existing in Shropshire.—G. M.

Babington and to your good Lady, and beleive I will be very glad of any occasion to expresse myself S^r^

Your affectionate servant,

Oxford this 20 of 9^ber^. EDW: HYDE.

To My Worthy ffriende S^r^ ffrancis Ottley Kn^t^ at his House in Shrewsbury these

XX. THO. BUSHELL TO THE SAME.

1642.

HONORED S^r^,

loth I was to omitte this oppurtunitie of thanks to you and the rest of those noble gentlemen, w'ich have shewd themselves so truly well [? reall] for their King and Countrie, as the hole Courte and kingdom is sensible thereof, to the memories of your future posterites, wich I wish with all my soule may be recorded to all ages, and I doubt not but the next letter shall give you all a Carractur of my unfayned affection, as well as your unparalell deserts, without any ends of my owne but to serve you in true fidellitie, and so for the present I desire your dispensation, presenting to your vew this inclosed letter of news from London; but for the Currancies of our Oxford proceedings they are . . . . the enemy cam to assalt banbene [Banbury] one thursday last, and the sight of prince Rupert's forses made them Rune away. The King is in a good Condittion of health, and his army encreseth dayly both by his frends and those that hearetofore weare his Enemyes. My lord Marquese will be at Oxford one fryday next, and it is thought their will be some great enterprise soone after. S^r^ Raffe[1] hopton is sett down before plimmouth [Teignmouth.—G. M.] 15 days since, and it is expected every day to hear he is in possession; my lord of Essex is in Widsor, the cittie begins to mutiny, and the thurd part of the Kings army is in reding; one Christmas day I gave the King a true account of all your Carriges, and what was your Chrismas desire before all the lords and gentlemen at Courte, the sucses will follow your expectation or else accuse me for a bad Solisitur present my

[1] Sir Ralph Hopton, Knight, son of Robert Hopton, of Witham, Co. Somerset, served in the thirty years' war in the army of the elector palatine; made a knight of the Bath at the coronation of Charles I.; represented Bath in the first Parliament of Charles, and Somerset in the Short Parliament. In 1642 he espoused the side of the King, was appointed Lieutenant-General of the horse commanded by the Marquis of Hertford, displayed great zeal and bravery in the royal cause; created a Baron 1643; died at Bruges 1652.

love and servis to the high Sheriff the Coronell lifftenante Coronell Sarjant Magor Skidmore[1] Ric . . . . S[r] Thomas Eton Sarjant magur warring[2] and the Mayer and his bretheren.

Yours

THO. BUSHELL.[3]

XXI. THO. BUSHELL TO THE SAME.

WORTHY S[r]

All your desires are fulfilled before the Messenger came, there is 23 barrells of powther mach and all things else to your minds be you all as carefull of your owne lives and safties, as my Lord Cappell will be redy to assist you with all his power and I feare not the ajacent enemyes these hoping shortly to see you I rest in hast

Your Servant to Command

THOMAS BUSHELL.

for his honerd frend
S[r] ffrancis Ottley
governor of Shrewsbury.

for my true frend
M[r] Simon Weston
and M[r] Richard
Studly att Shrewsbury.

XXII. H. HASTINGS TO THE SAME.

1642.

NOBLE SIR,

I have Commission from his Ma[tie] for the raising both of horse and Dragoones, and therefore have sent this bearer to Shrewsbury and desire he may beate up Drums for Volunteers: I pray you S[r] send away this letter with all speed, it much concerns his Ma[ties] Service.

So I rest
Yo[r] loving freind
to serve you

Worcester this Munday morning 12 Decemb[r] 1642.

H. HASTINGS.[4]

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[1] Scudamore.—G. M.

[2] Edward Waring, of Woodcote, near Shrewsbury, Esq.—G. M.

[3] Master of his Majesties Mint. For further information see O. & B. *Hist of Sh.* i., pp. 423-427.

[4] Henry Hastings, afterwards Lord Loughborough, second son of Henry, fifth Earl of Huntingdon. He was a zealous royalist, entrusted with the King's Commission of Array, fought at Edgehill two months previous to the date of this letter, and was now recruting at Wor

ffor his worthy and much esteemed
freind S^r^ ffrancis Oteley Knight
governour of the Cittie of Shrewsbury
present this
Speed Speed.

XXIII. ORL. BRIDGEMAN TO THE SAME.

1642.

Worthy Sir,

I pray help the bearer who goeth to Co. [court] with good post-horses, or other horses, from y^u^ to Worcester. More forces are come this day to namptwich for the enemy.

I had wayted on y^u^ at Whitchurch but that the imminent danger of this City prevented mee, and truly I dare not stir for fear of some treachery for we have discovered y^t^ the enemy designs for this city and relyes on his power here.

I shall be most willing to attend y^u^ at any safe place, but in respect of stragling Companyes abroad Whitchurch is not safe for us, but if you please to send word when y^u^ advance, or what further y^u^ desire (which must bee by Elsmere way and so to Wrexham) I shall not fayle to acq^e^ the Lords w^th^ it, who are now here, and tell mee they can at this time not well spare mee fro' hence, in respect of my Interest here, and they will bee most ready to doe anything w^ch^ lies in their power to give y^u^ and y^r^ worthy countrymen content. I have written to court for a comission to make powder, if you please to give the bearer the mans name whome y^u^ will employ herein. I doubt not but hee will bring a Comission w^th^ him, but if you have one from Bristoll hither it would be worth the jorney, for I fear the King can hardly spare y^t^ powder man who is at Shrewsbury. Sir I pray hasten to help us and so further oblige

Y^r^ humble serv^t^

Chester Dec. 15, 1642. Orl: Bridgeman.[1]

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cester, which town Prince Rupert had taken the previous September He took part in the battle of Hopton Heath in March, 1643; in the re-capture of Lichfield in April; and relieved Stafford in June. He was created Lord Loughborough 23rd Oct., 1643. In May, 1645, he joined the King's army before Leicester, and after its capture he was appointed Governor. He died in London, January, 1666-7.

[1] Orlando Bridgeman, afterwards [? see below] knighted. He was of the legal profession and successively Lord Chief Baron of the Exchequer, Chief Justice of the Common Pleas, and Lord Keeper, and

I beseech you to remember my humble Service to Sir Rich. Lea[1] when y[u] see him, we want Trumpeters extreamely if y[u] can I pray help us w[th] two and send them speedily to us.

To my very Worthy ffriend Sir Francis Oateley at his house in Shrewsbury.

XXIV. W. SMITH P.M.G. TO THE SAME.

1642.

Honoured S[r]

I am heartily glad of this Opertunity to express my Service and thanks to you for Yo[r] many noble fav[rs] I am desirous to serve you with the truest relations of News from these parts, it is said here this morning that we are to expect 4 Lords 4 of y[e] Com'ons and 4 from the City to treat uppon Accom'odation; in the interim his Ma[tie] is in good abillity with Gods blessing to deal with his Rebells according to their Merit: Sir I shall intreat you will speak to Mr. Alderman Rowley[2] as this inclosed letter will also do for £15 for which he stands

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is said to have first introduced full bottomed Wigs into Westminster Hall. He resided in Kensington, was ancestor in the sixth degree to the present Earl of Bradford [1837], compounded for his estate by payment of £865 5s. 9d., and was buried at Teddington, Co. Middlesex, 1674.—G. M.

He was a son of Dr. John Bridgeman, rector of Wigan, and in 1619 Bishop of Chester. He was returned in 1640 to the Long Parliament, and knighted the same year; 1638, became Chief Justice of Chester; 1640, Solicitor to the Prince of Wales. On the death of Charles he submitted to Cromwell; 1660, presided as Lord Chief Baron at the trial of the regicides; died at Teddington 1674. At the time of writing this and the following letters he was assisting his father, the Bishop, in defending Chester.

[1] Before mentioned as Sir Richard Lee.—G. M.

[2] Alderman William Rowley, son of Roger Rowley, gent., of an ancient line seated at a place from which they took their name, in the parish of Worfield, a draper, admitted a burgess 1594, built the fine brick mansion in Hill's Lane, Shrewsbury, known as Rowley's Mansion, was one of the twenty-four Aldermen appointed by the Charter of Charles I. in June, 1638. The occasion of his being in the custody of the Provost Marshal was when the King (Oct., 1642), after leaving the town to proceed to Bridgnorth, issued a proclamation "for the better peace and quiet of our county of Salop," and accompanied it by a letter in which he proscribed certain members of the Corporation of whom William Rowley was one.

engaged to me ever since his being discharged from my Custody, I shall entreat your help in the returning it to me hither by any trusty hand, and shall take it for a favour, As also that you will present my Service to Mr. Gibbons[1] Mr. Owen[2] and all the other Worthy Gentlemen with you, my humble Service to your Vertuous Lady and to your self Assurance that I am Sir

Your humble Servant

Oxford Castle W. Smith, P.M.G.
Dec. 19, 1642.

To my honoured Friend S^r^
Francis Oately Knight p'sent
this with my Service
at Shrewsbury.

XXV. EDW. NICHOLAS TO THOMAS BUSHELL.[3]

1642.

S^r^

I have given direcc'ons to my freinds att Shrewsbury to desire y^u^ to doe me the favo^r^ to give Charge to some of yo^r^ servants that y^u^ imploye about bringing the mint hither to take care to bring from Shrewsberry 4 or 5 trunks of myne in some of w^ch^ are papers, that much import his Ma^ties^ Service; this is a favour whereby y^u^ will very much oblige me. The King upon Collonell Hastings l're was very well satisfyed w^th^ y^e^ stay at Shrewsberry till after this day. I pray doe me the kindnesse to advertise me whether y^u^ have given order to bring hither trunkes, whereby y^u^ will much oblige.

Sir

Oxon 21 Dec. Y^r^ Affectionate freind and servant
1642. Edw. Nicholas.[4]

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[1] Richard Gibbons, of the Abbey Forgate, Shrewsbury, whose brother, Francis Gibbons, D.D., was appointed chaplain to the King, was also one of the Aldermen appointed by the Charter of 1638. He married Anne, daughter of Humphrey Sandford, Esq., of the Isle, near Shrewsbury, which lady was certified to the House of Commons as a popish recusant. He was taken prisoner at the capture of Shrewsbury.

[2] Probably Thomas Owen, Town Clerk, who was also taken prisoner on the capture of the town. He was seated at Dinthill, near Shrewsbury.

[3] Charles I. appointed him Governor of the Isle of Lundy.—G. M.

[4] Secretary Nicholas. This letter is in part printed in O. and B.'s *Hist. of Shrewsbury*, vol. i., p. 426.

To my worthy Freind
Thomas Bushell sq[r]
one of y[e] Wardens of his
Ma[ts] Mint at Shrewsbury.

XXVI. RICH. LLOYD TO SIR FRANCIS OTTLEY, KNIGHT.

1642.

S[r]

My Occations are such that I cannot com by Shrewsbury therefore I must entreate you to stand my friend in this bussness of Raysing my Regement I have left orders w[h] Major Holland and Jack Caulveley[1] for the resceiving of them, I pray you further it what you may and speake to the rest of my good frends to do the like for the sooner I have them ready the sooner I shall be able to doe the contry servis I will God willing be back w[t]hin this fortnight and till then and ever I will be

You[r] Servant

RICH: LLOYD.[2]

for his honored frend
S[r] francis Otteley Knight
[No date. After Dec. 18, 1642]. present.

XXVII. R. LLOYD TO THE SAME.

1642.

HONOURED S[r]

The Kings letters inclosed in y[rs] I shall w[th] all care and speed cause to be convayed for the manage of theire buisness in Cheshire, I can not excuse the passages, but inconsiderat acts of theires I hope will not occasion the Countie of Salop and Neighbouring Counties to neglect the Kings Service or theire own com'on safetie and p[r]servation. I am confident there is still a designe to surprise Chester, and if there be not some considerations for new Consultations and advise to strengthen

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[1] Jack Calveley—a younger branch of the Calveleys of Calveley Hall, Co. Chester.—G. M.

He was Captain of Dragoons in Colonel Richard Lloyd's Regiment.

[2] Colonel Richard Lloyd, of Llwynymaen, commanded a regiment of Dragoons in the royal army. He appears in the list of those who compounded for their estates as having paid £180, the place of his residence being written Lloyd-Amain.

these parts and yo^{r} p^{ts} wth a new Association, we shall be exposed.

S^{r} I am and shall remayne
Yo^{r} faithfull Servant
Ri. Lloyd.

Wrexham
this Wednesday.

To his ever honoured
freind S^{r} ffrancis
Otteley Kn^{t} at
Shrewsbury these.

XXVIII. WILLIAM ROBERTS TO THOMAS BUSHELL.

1642.

S^{r}

I have written severall l'rs of late unto you, but have receyved none fro' you, w^{ch} makes me doubt the miscarryinge of them, notwithstanding I have thought fitt to take this opportunitye to acquaint you wth the condition and tottering state of things heere wth us, all tradinge decayed, and yet our charge by intollerable taxacons soe encreasing that we hourely expect some insurrection, whereof I think you will shortly heare.

Heere came out lately in print a resolution of the Knights and chiefe gents of the Countie of Salop,[1] w^{ch} is so much applauded that it is verily thought it will induce many other Counties to follow their example, being generally wished that by some wayes the peace of the Kingdome might be established, w^{ch} cannot be wthout a generall unitinge of the peoples harts to their soveraygne, thes distractions begetting nothing but confusion, and ruine, and wee wthin this Cittye are so disagreeing amongst our^{r}selves, and so generally discontent, that wee feare mischiefe amongst our^{r}selves more than the damage fro' abroad, god in mercye looke upon us, and put an end to these our troubles, Soe hopinge of yo^{r} health, I take leave, remayning

Yo^{r} humble Servant
William Roberts.

London this 26 of Decemb^{r}
1642.

To his much honored frend
Tho. Bushell Esq^{r} p^{r}sent these.

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[1] This I take to be the "Ingagement and Resolution of the principall Gentlemen of the Countie of Salop," which appeared in a small tract of four leaves printed at Oxford by L. Lichfield, at the latter end of 1642, to which the names of 33 of the principal gentry of the County are attached.—G. M.

XXIX. GEORGE PHILLIPS TO SIR FRANCIS OTTLEY, KNIGHT.

1642.

Bristoll 26th Decembr 1642.

NOBLE SIR

Be pleased to excuse my boldness in p'suming to p'sent you wth these two lines wch are to inform you that I have in my custody some spanish pikes. I shew'd them to one of Yr Soldiers viz: Young Reeve and bad him acquaint you of them; if they may anything serve you &c. in his Matics service in your part as I am very willing to be a poor instrument therein, they will come at a very reasonable rate, I would have sent up some 30 or 40, by sd Reeves at his last being here, but I durst not for fear of loosing them; the Parliaments forces being upon the River, I dare hardly write any news bec. [because] doe fear intercepting, yet will adventure two words you may therefore be pleased to understand—viz. that Collonell Essex was after much debating and stirr admitted into this Citty upon Fryday was fortnight with about 1500 Armed Soldiers—to the great joy of some whose Wives did petition the day before for his coming; but to the great Greife of others (and those the most understanding men) who did fear that the King's forces would p'sently draw this way and sett uppon the Citty, the Soldiers have hitherto behaved themselves very well and have done no wrong to any man, I wish they may continue so doing; we had news out of Cornwall last week that Sr Raph Hopton was slayne and his forces dispersed but I had advise two day since from Exeter that that report was false, and that sd Sr Raph is well and is almost 10000 strong; and that he is now uppon the borders of Devonshire, we had another false report came here of the taking the Lord Grandeson wth 1500 Horse at Winchester, but ye number is exceeding diminshed, and sd Lord and many Other Gentlemen gotten cleer of them and are wth his Matie—the News out of the North, from Hereford, and Worcester &c. you know better than wee in these ptes; I do therefore forbear more, and Desiring yr pardon for this p'sumtion, wth humble Servise p'sented Take my Leave

Yr Worships in all
humble Servicse

GEORGE PHILLIPS.

To the Right Worll
Sr Francis Oately
these p'sent
in Sallop.

XXX. EDW. HYDE TO THE SAME.

1642-3.

Sir

If you receave not so full satisfaction by your man as you expecte, you must not attribute it to any negligence of your frends, or any disesteem in his Ma^ty^ towards you. I assure you the King hath a very just sense of your meritt and lookes upon the service of that towne (where he received so great testimonyes of duty and Loyalty) as the effect of your Care and industry, and therefore you may beleive he will never be unwilling to grante you any addition of power, who imploy it so well to his advantage, but in this business of Govenour he makes some pawse upon this scruple, he hath had of late ill luck in making Govern^rs^ of Cities and Townes, and tho' he hath always chosen loved and popular men for those places, yet private differences have so farr grown, that he hath been in danger to loose the Corporation. Now he says you are Comaunder of the Armes of the Town, and already have all authority to that purpose,[1] but he fears if he should send you an absolute Pattent of Governour, it may some day discontent the Corporation, however he resolves there shall be no other Governour but you, and if you and the Towne think it necessary that you should have an immediate Pattent lett us hear from you and it shall be dispatch'd, you shall hear more particularly to your satisfaction by M^r^ Babington, who shall inform you of many things which I dare not write —— I writt when your m . . . . . ent last to M^r^ Mayor, concerning moneys, but I hear nothing . . . . . er were many subscripcons which were not payd, and I hear much hath been receaved since. I beseech you to move him, that I may hear from . . . . what remaynes

[1] The King quitted Shrewsbury on the 12th of October, since which date Sir Francis Ottley had made such vigorous use of his military command that he had secured a complete ascendency over all the discontented element in the town. The following is the form of protestation imposed by him on many hundred inhabitants of the town on the 2nd of January, 1642-3, and such as refused were threatened to be killed: "I. A. B., do in the presence of Almighty God protest and acknowledge without any mental reservation that I do detest and abhor the notorious rebellion which goes under the name of the Parliament Army, and will with my whole force and means to the uttermost of my power withstand their impious rebellion against our most gracious Sovereign Lord King Charles, our Protestant religion, our laws of the land, our just privileges of Parliament, and liberty of the subject."State Papers, Domestic Series, vol ccccxcvii., p. 437.

in his handes and that he will send in a . . . . resented to his Ma^{ty} that he may see who keepe not . . . . his Ma^{ty} hears that you are fallen upon . . . . Armes at Shrewsbury of which he is extremely gladd, and . . . . would pursue it and that his Ma^{ty} if it be possible may have . . . . hence therefore I beseech you let me hear from you and speedily . . . . of Armes of all sorts you conceave it possible for his Ma^{ty} to receave from thence, paying the full pryces——— I have sent you severall Bookes which 'tis very fitt should be reprinted at Shrewsbury, and spread abroade about the county, in which his Ma^{ty} desyres your Assistance upon all occasyons——— I doubt not you will every day hear his Ma^{ties} affayres are much advanced: which God grante.

I am S^{r} your very Affectionate servt.

All Soules Colledge EDW: HYDE.
this 5th of January.

I desyre you to send one booke of a sort to ff^{r} Newporte from me.

To My Worthy ffrinde S^{r} Francis Ottley Knt. at his House in Shrewsbury these.

XXXI. W. SMITH TO THE SAME.

1642-3.

NOBLE S^{r}

I once more encrease my ill mann^{rs} to you which is to let you know that in all his Majes^{ties} Garrisons I am allow'd a Deputy, Yo^{rs} being so I am bold to entreat you will allow of this my Deputy George Crosse, who being one born near you and as he tells me known to you wilbe the more readily well allow'd by you, my fees are 20^{s} for a Gent: 13/4^{d} for a Citizen, 10^{s} for a Farmer or Yeoman, and 5^{s}/ for a Co'mon Man so much severally for every day, I pray you let him have your Countenance and Assistance in his service, w^{ch} I assure myself he will perform dilligently and Honestly so rests

S^{r} Yo^{r} humble Servant

Oxford Jany. 6, 1642. W. SMITH.
P. Marshall Generall.

I hope this Letter with Yo^{r} Comission and permission wilbe sufficient Authority for him, if not I will send him a deputation at large, but have done no more but this in other places, and am Obey'd.

For S^{r} Francis Oately
my most honoured Friend
This and my Service at Shrewsbury.

XXXII. THOMAS BUSHELL TO THE SAME.

1642-3.

S^r^

This inclosed paper will give you an accompt of my ac'ons, and I hope yo^r^ goodness will excuse mee at yo^r^ Club of good fellowship for not writing particular letters to all those, whom I hono^r^ in yo^r^ parts in regard of my multiplicitye of busines. There are some persons w^ch^ seeke for the place of Governo^r^ of the towne of Shrewsbury, but I have stopt the Currant, and if the Mayor and some principle gentlemen will recomend you, I know the King hath that confidence in yo^r^ worth and Meritt that he will trust you before any who now stand for it, seale this l're when you and my noble frends Sir Vincent Corbett[1] and S^r^ John Wilde[2] have read it, but be sure this letter of the Kinges be printed and dispersed at yo^r^ generall mustars: present my servise to those Vertuous Ladyes at S^r^ Jn^o^ Wildes, whom I shall ever hono^r^ and remayne the Servant of

Yours and their Commands

Januarie the 6th, 1642. THOMAS BUSHELL.

The King will take it for an acceptable service, to procure amunition of guns, Clubbs, or bills, such as S^r^ Vincent Corbett gave me notice, of w^ch^ I acquainted his Ma^tie^; care will be had for the paym^t^, as soon as they shall be made and provided Weeklye.

for his honored frend S^r^ Ffrancis Oatley Knight at Salop. these.

XXXIII. W. SMITH TO THE SAME.

1642-3.

NOBLE S^r^

I have lately sent two or three letters to you which were only motives to know your and your Vertuous Ladys

[1] Sir Vincent Corbet of Morton Corbet, Co. Salop, Knight, and Baronet. This active and staunch supporter of the King had in July, 1643, a commission to raise a regiment of 1000 Volunteers. He was admitted of Queen's College, Oxford, 1634; elected Knight of the Shire, 1640; was one of the leading loyalists of the county, and married Sarah, daughter and co-heir of Robert Monson, of Carlton, Co. Leicester; created Oct. 23, 1679, Viscount Corbet of Linchlade for life. His branch of this ancient family terminated in his granddaughter Beatrice, who married John Kynaston of Hordley, Esq. He died Dec. 28 or 29, 1656. -G.M.

[2] John Wild, of Willey, Esq. before noticed.--G.M.

welfare; the Assurance whereof I now have by your Servant; the continuance thereof I heartily desire; and entreat by your pen to know how happily your forces encrease; I also presume to encrease my former troubles to you by my request that you willbe pleased to call upon Alderman Rowley for £15 w^{ch} he owes me, and promised long since to pay it to whom I should Appoint; I have now written to him to pay it to yourself, and entreat you will be pleased to take the trouble upon you of receiving and returning it to me. This day, at 4 in the morning, we have sent out some forces towards Ciceter; I hope you will Immediately hear good news of them; so S^{r} with my true Service to yourself, your Vertuous Lady, and all my Worthy Friends in Your Town, I rest

Yo^{r} humble Servant

W. Smith P. Marshall Generall.

Oxford Jan. 6: 1642.

To my most honoured frend
Sir Francis Oateley Knight present
this with speed and my Service
at his house in Shrewsbury.

XXXIV. PETER VENABLES TO THE SAME.

1642-3.

Noble S^{r}

I lately received a letter from my Sister Mackworth, wherein she informs me, that having removed to Coventry, she sent for some Goods thither, which she left behind her at Shrewsbury; which were taken by some Soldiers that said that they were under Your Command, my request to you is, that you wilbe pleased if it be within your power, to help her to them again: and I shall take the same as a favour from you, soe, resting Confident of your good Assistance herein, I remain

Your Affectionate frend and Servant

Peter Venables.[1]

Kinderton 7 Jan. 164[illegible].

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[1] The son of Thomas Venables, Esq., Baron of Kindeston, co. Chester; he was Sheriff of that county in 1634, and died Nov. 13th, 1669. Humphrey Mackworth, third son of Humphrey Mackworth, Esq., of Betton Strange, Salop, married his sister.

XXXV. ORL. BRIDGEMAN TO THE SAME.

1642-3.

NOBLE SIR

This day since noone I have received Intelligence that S^r William Brereton is at Heywood and some of his forces at Darlaston bridge and hee is raysing more, what his designe is is most uncertayne the report is he will come to nampwich so to Manchester, I doe suspect Bromfeild and some part of Shropshire: doubt not y^u have a Watchfull Eye and wee shall give y^u the best assistance wee can.

S^r I wrote to y^u yesterday my Lord Capells desire concerning a Regiment of horse, hee is able and willing to disburse moneys and whosoever knows him must give him a Character of a Gallant. if you think any Service may be done him in y^r parts, I beseech y^u write a letter (unless y^u please to direct it to him to whom I have made mention of y^u in my letter I send by this bearer) directed to myself which y^u may leave open or give order to this bearer to shew to his self [? host] w^th my letter. with my Affectionate respects and service to y^u I remayne

Y^r very hearty Servant,

Chester Jan: 12. 1642. ORL BRIDGEMAN.

To my Noble freind Sir Francis
Oteley at Shrewsbury these.

XXXVI. EDW. HYDE TO THE SAME.

1642-3.

SIR

I have acquainted his Ma^ty with the contents of your letter (I mean that of the 11^th of this Month) for the other you mention is not yet come to my hands) concerning the Carbynes and Muskets with which his Ma^ty is very well pleased, and bad me tell you you could not do him a greater service then in helping him to store of such arms, and therefore, I have written by his Ma^ties direction to the Mayor of Shrewsbury to pay all such summs of money as he hath in his hands, which his Ma^ty hopes is a considerable sum, to you to be employ'd in the buying of Arms, and D^r Babington is appointed to received more money in other places, to be employed to the same purpose too: so that I hope you will not wante money for that supply, if you doe let me hear from you, and you shall receive new directions, for the King infinitely depends upon you. your Commission is dispatched and shall be sent either by this bearer or by another to morrow.

As soon as you have gotten any store of Arms into your hands, let me hear from you, and you shall speedily receive his Ma^ties^ commands for the conveyance of them hither, I am very heartily S^r^

Your most Affectionate Serv^t^

19[1] Jan. [1642-3]. EDW: HYDE.

To my worthy ffriende
Sir Francis Ottly Knt.[2] his Ma^tys^
Governour of Shrewsbury.

XXXVII. ORL. BRIDGMAN TO THE SAME.

1642-3.

NOBLE SIR

I am much troubled at the reports I hear (w^ch^ may also be Inferred out of y^r^ Letter) of unkindnesses taken by the Gentlemen of Shropshire ag^t^ us. the reasons I hear are these, the one that wee made an agreem^t^ without them to the breach of the Association, the other that none of ours came to wayt on them.

Sir, I can assure y^u^ when wee made the agreem^t^, w^ch^ was on Friday night, (although the appoyntment for y^e^ coming to Whitchurch was to have been 3 or 4 days before), wee neither heard nor knew of any forces at Whitchurch excepting some few of S^r^ Vincent Corbets, who, being written to on Wednesday or Tuesday to have advanced to Torporly on Thursday (being our general Rendevous), returned answer hee had not a considerable strength, nor could stir till he had order, as may appear by his letter to Collonell Hastings: and I desire not to be beleived in anything if to my knowledge I ever heard of any other forces at Whitchurch till Saturday night. when a letter came to my Lo: Chomley, from his Chaplayn, informing that after we were returned from Torporley on Saturday, (which was not till ten a Clock), there came some

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[1] This letter is dated the 17th in George Morris's transcript, but I have followed the Cotes' MS.

[2] This is the first instance of Sir Francis being addressed as Governor of Shrewsbury, a post he had for some time anxiously coveted, and this letter enables us to fix within a day the date of his Commission, which must have been either the 16th or 17th January, 1642-3. The historians of Shrewsbury had evidently not seen this, as well as some of the previous and many other letters the late Mr. Ottley possessed.—G. M.

Gentlemen from Whitchurch thither: and as soon as I heard of it, I was bold in my lord Cholmlye's name, and my owne, to send a letter (to Mr. Sheriff)[1] I take it or y^r selfe informing of the truth, and acknowledging w^th all thankfullnesse y^r readinesse to assist us. and undertaking to doe the like upon all occasions for y^e defence to the Uttermost of o^r power, w^ch letter, though it was 7 of the clock at night ere I heard of those Gentlemens being there, we sent instantly by a messinger of purpose, a Gentleman of my Lo. Cholmleys, to Whitchurch. The next day being Chrestmas day, and Sunday, and a Communion day, my Lo. Chomley and myself did, indeed, not stir out, hearing also that you disbanded on Monday, I made bold to write a 2^d letter to Mr. Sheriff, when I payd him the hundred pounds w^ch he had delivered to Colonell Hastings, making the same acknowledgements of our thanks —none of the Comissioners being in Chester but my Lo. Cholmley.

And, as touching the Association if the agreement bee well weighed, it will appear there is nothing in it tending to the least breach. and in truth in respect thereof there is like to be a breach amongst us, for some, willing to take advantage of the Parliaments declaration ag^t the agreement, and to get admittance for S^r Wm. Brereton,[2] and Sir Jo: Gell, to fall upon Lancashire, or Shropshire, or both, and upon us also, have begun to quarrell, and would have us to explayne the 6th Article for giving of free passage. we mett at Northwich where we told them wee must resist S^r William though he did no hostile Act here. and for the Article it leaves them at liberty not to be bound to joyne with us to resist any such forces as shall make this County a passage: but excludes not us from resisting, nor gives allowance for a passage, but only excepts that they are not bound to joyne to resist in such case, and the letter of the Article is playn accordingly. We are to meet agayn on tuesday about this business, but in respect of our Association wee resolve to Admitt no forces to passe to the hurt of our friends. And we hope you will stir up y^r friends, and all being equally concerned, that all private unkindness may be layd aside, and wee doe our utmost endeaver ag^t the Common Enemy.

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[1] John Weld of Willey, Esq. before noticed.—G.M.

[2] Sir William Brereton of Handford, Co. Chester, one of the most active of the Parliamentary Generals, and by the Parliament appointed chief forester of Macclesfield and Steward of the hundred. He died April 7th, 1661.—G. M.

For this purpose I can advise nothing, but if S^r^ William Brereton and Gell come down (as how soon they will I do not know) wee shall be too weak without y^u^ supplye us, and I beseech y^u^ Sir Seriously consider it and bee pleased to Communicate it with all speed to y^r^ Noble Countrymen, who, I hope, will joyne w^th^ y^u^ w^th^ all speed to bring forces to the confines of the County. for I am assured their Ayme is at this place, and to Shrewsbury, w^th^ all the force and speed they can . . . . y^u^ will excuse this tedious relation, occasioned by my desire that satisfaction my be given in this particular to all those Noble Gentlemen w^th^ y^u^, And to them and to y^r^ selfe, Sir, I shall ever remayne to my power

Y^r^ most faithfull Servant

Chester Jany. 20. 1642. ORL BRIDGMAN.

To my Noble Freind Sir ffrancis
Oteley at Shrewsbury these present.

XXXVIII. THOMAS LEGH TO THE SAME.

1642-3.

SIR,

With my prime respects I salute you, &c.

It was our Misfortune here in Cheshire to enter into an Association, pacification, or cessation of Arms, (I cannot well tell what to call it) but I p'ceive no probabillity that itt will hold with the faith of the Adverse (who for their own advantage and gain of time, have somewhat deluded us) Truth is we are resolved to Advance speedily to defend our Country, and do crave yo^r^ Assistance according to Accord of both Counties) that you will please yourself, and to move, and Occasion yo^r^ Country to draw what convenient forces (you think fitt) to our Borders to be instantly ready to Joyn with us to Suppresse or defend the insolencies and incursions of Opponents; I will hope my Lord of Derby wilbe moving on the other side of Manchester, and (thereby and by our Stirring here) I hope we shall quell their cunning thoughts (not otherwise pacificall). Ther's to be another meeting on Tuesday next, but I expect no peacefull, p'manent conclusion, and, therefore, we prepare for tho'ther way; this I entreat you to make privately known to the Gentlemen, &c. near you Friends to his Maj^ty^, who, I hope, will be secrett and forward to further his Service, and to whom (tho' too much unacquainted) I desire to Tender my respects, Writing my self

S^r^ yo^r^ Assured Friend and wellwisher

THOMAS LEGH.

I desire yo[r] Answer
Chester 20th January 1642.

To my honerd and
especiallie esteemed
Friend S[r] Francis
Oteley, Governor ot
Shrosbury
This be p'sented.

XXXIX. THOS. WOLRYCHE, WM. WHITMORE, EDWDARD CRESSETT, EDWARD ACTON TO SIR FRANCIS OTTLEY, KNIGHT.

1642-3.

NOBLE S[r]

We are bold to inform you that M[r] John Byrch being here with us at o[r] meeting about especiall business wherein he was concern'd was served with Yo[r] Warrant while he was in O[r] Company. We know not what you will lay to his Charge, and therefore for that we refer him to yo[r] wisdome but in respect of great Occasions which some of us have with him, and w[ch] he hath with divers men for whom he dealeth, if you may please to bail him that he be bailable, we shalbe ready to Offer you good Bail for him, or if not if you can be pleased to give him leave to attend the p'sent Occasions from us and others until Thursday next you will do him a great pleasure, and we in his behalf shall be very thankfull unto you, And Assuredly remain

Yo[r] very loving freinds

Bridgenorth
20 January 1642.

THOS. WOLRYCHE[1]
WM. WHITMORE[2]
EDWDARD CRESSETT[3]
EDWARD ACTON.[4]

To O[r] noble friend S[r] Frauncis Otley Knight at Shrewsbury p'sent these.

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[1] Sir Thomas Wolrich, Knight and Baronet, of Dudmaston, co. Salop, M.P. for Wenlock 1620, 1623, and 1625, commander of the trained bands, and Governor of Bridgnorth, a fervent royalist. He was twice sequestered from his estates, more than once cast into prison, and compounded for his estate in the sum of £730 14s.

[2] Sir William Whitmore, Bart., of Apley House, Salop, a son of Sir William Whitmore, Knight, who purchased the Apley estate in 1572. All his personal goods and chattels were sequestered for the sum of £583 3s. 2d., and he compounded for his estate by paying £5,000.

[3] Edward Cressett, Esq., of Upton Cressett, Salop.

[4] Sir Edward Acton, Bart., of Aldenham, Co. Salop, created a Baronet in 1643.

XL. JOHN HARRINGTON TO THE SAME.

1642-3.

Sr

It were an uncivill part in me to Comend (in Yor presence) your zeal and forwardness to preserve the Honour and Safety of this County; but Sir you highly deserve it and your praises and applauses extend farre and near into Other Countys altho' they are short of your deserts (if you will give me leave to say so much) but beleeve me you have not done yet for I find that our County and Especially these parts are very slow to keep themselves secure and to satisfie the com'on expectation, the Divells have got possession of the Swyne and they are running into their own Ruin, I see very well that the design of raising a Thousand Dragoons is in a manner quashed every Hundred is to find 10 and every Alottment according to their proportions, but suppose they delude you they will say much and do nothing (as it seems many have done in this expedition of Sir Vincent Corbett) what will you do then? punish a Multitude? this cannot well be done, because although many will be faulty yet some will not; my Humble Motion therefore is: that an Assement be shortly made by some men of known worth and Loyalty; what every man in particular shall shortly do and he that refuseth to perform let his Person be secured, if I have said too much you must conceal my Errors and even be confident in

Yor Kinsman and Servant

John Harrington.

Bishton 25 Jany. 1642.

[No direction.]

XLI. ORL. BRIDGEMAN TO THE SAME.

1642-3.

Noble Sir

I wrote to yu Yesterday, these are further to Certify yu that wee have already brought into this Towne almost 500 Armed men and 200 more will be this night and 200 tomorrow night and 2 Troops of horse. Mr. Savage intended to have wayted on yu but in respect of raysing of men I am afrayd it will not bee possible for his power is good . . . . I beseech yu Sir return me as neere as yu can yo resolutions of

Mr. Sheriff and y^r^ other freinds. In great hast the bearer staying on horseback. I remayne

Y^r^ most humble Servant

ORL BRIDGEMAN.

Chester Wednesday
3 a Clock. Jany 25.
[1642-3. Ed.]

It were well if forces lye at Wolverhampton that some now and then would meet with the pacquett betwixt Lichfield and Stone.

To my Noble freind
Sir ffrancis Oatley at
Shrewsbury these.

XLII. ORL. BRIDGEMAN TO THE SAME.

1642-3.

NOBLE SIR

Sir Thomas Aston's[1] diversion to Stafford hath occasioned S^r^ Wm. Brereton to be this morning at Namptwich, where S^r^ Thomas Aston resolved to have been this afternoon. I wrote to him what I thought, but I hope hee will redeeme the time and wee shall strengthen o^r^ selves here. who are neere upon 1000 in all. and had some part gone out (for many cannot come being only trayned bands of Wales) who were . . . . .) but wee wanted horse w^th^ w^ch^ hee helps to supplye us. This Gentleman, Capt. Yarnam, deserves y^r^ favor, being a most faithfull servt of the King. I am Sir

Y^r^ Affectionate Servant

Chester 28 Jan. 3. o'clock [1642-3]

ORL. BRIDGEMAN.

I hope you will hasten y^r^ forces to Whitchurch.

To my Noble ffreind
Sir ffrancis Oatley at
Shrewsbury these.

XLIII. THO. ASTON TO THE SAME.

1642-3.

SR FFRANCIS

Wee have had a sharpe day of it, being desireous to enter y^e^ Wych, wee found it p'possestt this morning by some 7

[1] See Note to next letter.

Mr. Sheriff and a cane fencer. In front from the house
fencing on horseback. I presume

score brought in by Steele, w^ch^ were by all held an inconsiderable p'ty, and wee attempted to give them Alarum in 2 severall places at once to make an Essay if they would quitt the towne but y^t^ proving not fesible our Dragooners giving no fyre at all wee sought to retreat, but in our Retreat were encountred by all S^r^ Willm Brereton's fforce, through w^ch^ wee were forced to make our way; both sides are loosers, what wee know not, night being theyre, friend our enemy. but hither I have made a retreat and desire you w^th^ all possible speed in y^e^ morning to dispatch away some Musketeers to make good this place or w^th^ cut all question they will Attempt it to morrow and if possest you may conclude the danger; I think they were sufficiently distressed not to be over hasty being I am assured I Kild a Scotch Officer y^t^ I took to be theyre prime man, and severall prisoners wee have, and many slayne, but you know how wee are p'pared for such encounter therefore I beseech you send to Mr. Sheriffe to make all possible hast:

Your Servant

Saturday[1] night about 2 a clock THO. ASTON.[2]

To my honoured friend
S^r^ ffrancis Oatley Knt at Shrewsbury
or in his absence to be sent to y^e^ Sheriffe.

XLIV. JO: BIRCH TO THE SAME.

1642-3.

S^r^

Uppon a letter rec: from Richard Reeve which is confirmed p'word of Mouth p' young Henry Reeves; I have p^tly^ in Regard of myself and p^tly^ for the love I bear to free trade, made bould to Trouble you with these few lines which by order I write unto y^r^ Hon^r^: it appears that whereas I sent to Shrosbury by Richard Reeve fower butts of Sack you have

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[1] January 28th, 1642-3. On this occasion the Parliamentary forces claimed, and correctly so, the victory, having taken a considerable number of horse and foot prisoners.—G. M.

[2] Sir Thomas Aston of Acton, Co. Chester, first Baronet, was a zealous royalist, raised a party of horse for the King's service, was wounded in several engagements with the Parliamentary forces, and ultimately taken prisoner in a skirmish with them in Staffordshire, and confined in Stafford Castle, in endeavouring to escape from which he was wounded on the head by a soldier. The fever arising from this and other wounds not cured caused his death March 24, 1645. He was High Sheriff of Cheshire 1635.—G. M.

made seasure, or at least Stop, of them in Shrosbury as myself being one of the Malignant p^ty^ that have taken up Arms against the King which God forbid and I p'sume you are misinformed in that, now so it is that there being a free trade intended between Shrosbury and Bristoll the May^r^ my good frend and the Collonell Essex do desire by no means the least Jarr or occasion of breach and therefore by the same rule though they might have made stopag of the Goods and Trow of Shrowsbury yet neither they nor myself desire it, but they have engaged themselves to me to make good the 4 butts at 16£ a butt only it was thought good I should write unto you to know your pleasure and if you wou'd be pleased to lett my wines be disposed off according as I shall ord^r^ and according to free Trade which they are confident off (and young Henry Reeves Afirms it) then that y^r^ Hon^r^ would be pleased the next Spring to answer this my letter and to declare if I shall give order for the dispose of the Wines aforesaid which will make it to Appear that Y^r^ Hon^r^ desires a free trade as we also desire and for myself shall be ready to do you any reasonable service and so rest desiring that this great breach and misunderstanding may be made up

So prays Y^r^ Lo: Frend

Though unknown

Jo: Birch.

I desire to send my Bro: to Shrewsbury to dispose of the Sack there and some other Goods I shall send up next Spring If y^r^ Hon^r^ please to give way.

To the Hon^rable^ S^r^ Francis Oatly Govern^r^ of the Town of Sallop these present p' a Frend whom God preserve

Bristoll: 28th Jan: 1642.

XLV. V. CORBETT TO SIR FRANCIS OTTLEY, KNIGHT.

Sir

This in hast, is onely to give you notice, of a skirmish we had, w^th^ Breartons and y^e^ Nantwich forces, I cannot as yet certify of any p'ticular passage, onely thus far be satisfied for y^e^ present; the relation of it is not very good neither is it very bad, this much I wold request you y^t^ w^th^ all Speede, you will

send unto Whitchurch all y^e^ Churgieons you can possible p'vide for wee are in gr^t^ want of them. So I rest

Yours to serve you
V. CORBETT.

Drayton
Sunday Morning,[1]
at 6 a clock.

To the Right Wor^ll^
Sir ffrancis Oately governer
of Shrewsbury.

XLVI. THE KING TO THE SAME.

1642-3.

CHARLES R.

We are given to understand that some packs of wooll being the goods of William Jolley of Leeke in our county of Stafford, Gent. were staid in Shrewsbury, upon pretence or information that he had shewed himself disaffected to our Service, fforasmuch as we have rec^d^ a Certificate under the hands of divers justices of y^e^ peace of that o^r^ County of Stafford to whom the said Jolley is well known testifying his conformity to y^e^ Lawes and Religion established his loyalty to us, and that he hath offered to make Oath that he never assisted towards the support of y^e^ Army or any fforces in Rebellion against us, we have therefore thought fitt and doe by these presents require and authorise you forthwith after sight hereof to release and deliver back to the said Jolley or to such person as he shall depute, all y^e^ said packs of wooll soe staid and detained as aforesaid. And for soe doing this shall bee yo^r^ Warrant. Given at our Court at Oxford y^e^ 29^th^ Day of January 1642.

To our trusty and well beloved S^r^ Francis
Otely Knight Governo^r^ of our Towne
of Shrewsbury.

XLVII. JOHN HARRINGTON TO THE SAME.

1642-3.

S^r^

I made bold to express part of my mind to you in a letter w^ch^ was sent by Messenger from Sir Vincent Corbett to his Lady on Fryday last, and having this Opportunity I do again adventure to let you know by this Bearer that it is

[1] January 29, 1642-3.—G. M.

conceived that this County will be in as much danger by Domestick as foraigne Adversaries, if you and such as you are, prevent it not by your Speedy Care and Vigilance.

I am confident that the Bearer's Honesty and Sufficiency is of so much worth as will highly deserve your good Esteem and Imployment, so long and no longer I cou'd wish you to accept of his endeavours; but believe it you will find that some who privately desire the miscarriage of your designs will never want such acceptions [? exceptions] against him as Constant wise men (as things now stand) cannot Judge considerable, I was hartily sorry to see S^{r} Vincent Corbett so poorly furnished with raw Soldiers and Young Commanders, if I am over bold you must excuse me Yett no longer than you find me Honest and Hasty and so I rest

Your Assured Servant and Cousin

JOHN HARRINGTON

Bishton 30 Jany. 1642

To his honourable Cousin S^{r} Francis Otteley Knight and Governor of Salop these present.

XLVIII. EDW: HYDE TO SAME.

1642-3.

SIR

I am desyred by my old Landlord Mr. Acherley[1] to write to you in his behalfe, it seems he hath been threatened by some ill neighbours and so fears he may suffer by misinformation, he says he's very innocent and will always continue so, and indeed hath made so many protestations to me, that I believe him. I do therefore desyre you that you will not let him suffer by any general imputation without good proofe: The King relyes much upon your diligence and interest in these unlucky tymes. I hope you will speedily receive such assistance, as will put new life into your parts.

God send us peace

I am S^{r} your very affectionate servt.

Oxford this 31 day of January. EDW: HYDE.

To my worthy ffriend S^{r} Francis Ottley Govern^{r} of Shrewsbury these.

[1] Mr. Atcherley, the Head Master of Shrewsbury School, at whose house the writer stayed when the King was in Shrewsbury, Sept. 20, 1642.

XLIX.—TO SIR FRANCIS OTTLEY, KNIGHT.

1642-3.

Sir,—Upon some signification of his Mat^yes pleasure it is thought fitt by the Lords and others Com^rs of Array for the County of Chester, that the persons of S^r Richard Wilbraham[1] K^t and Baronett and of Roger Wilbraham[2] Esq^r bee secured until his Mt^yes further pleasure bee knowne concerning them. And because of the danger of these parts it is thought fittest to send them to Shrewsbury. Wee doe therefore desire you to take order that their persons be secured there until his Ma^tyes further pleasure be known concerning them, for w^ch purpose some addresses are already made to court, thereof we doubt not of y^r Especiall care, and rest.

Your very assured friends to serve you

Chester Feb. 9, 1642.

Derby[3] Rivers[4]

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[1] Sir Richard Wilbraham of Woodhay, Co. Chester, Knight, elevated to the Baronetcy May 5, 1625. He died in confinement at Shrewsbury the beginning of April following, and among the letters, &c., dated the 7th of that month (not 9th, as mentioned in Owen & Blakeway's Hist. of Shrewsbury, vol. 1, p. 421, n. 7) appears "a true copy of an Authority from Arthur Lord Capell to Sir Francis Oateley Kn^t Governo^r of the Towne of Shrewsburie and to all Commanders Officers and Souldiers under my Command" stating that "S^r Rich. Wilbraham of Woodhay in the Countie Palatine of Chester, Kn^t and Baronet is lately deceased at the Towne of Shrewsburie," and had before his death requested to be buried with his Ancestors in the Church of Acton in that County, and that the said Lord Capell had "condescended that the body of the said S^r Rich. Wilbraham be by y^u delivered out of yo^r Porters or Guards," and commands all Commanders, &c., under him to suffer the body and friends to the no. of 30 and their horses "to passe the Guards to Whytchurch and soe in the direct way to Acton," without molestation. The altar tomb erected to his memory still remains in Acton Church, the inscription nearly obliterated.—G. M.

[2] I apprehend the Christian name of this gentleman is incorrect.—G. M.

[3] James Stanley, K.G., 7th Earl of Derby of the name, and summoned to Parliament, V.P. as Baron Strange. He was one of the King's most eminent and active supporters, and long maintained his independence in the Isle of Man. He assisted Charles II's escape to Boscobel after the battle of Worcester, Sept. 3rd, 1651, was shortly afterwards taken prisoner, and illegally executed by sentence of Court Martial.—G. M.

[4] John Savage, Lord Rock Savage, 2nd Viscount Savage, grandson and heir of Thomas D'Arcy, 3rd Baron D'Arcy, created Earl Rivers

R. CHOLMONDELEY[2] ROBERT KILLMOREY[1]
THO. ASTON THO. SAVAGE[3]
GEFFERY SHAKERLEY[4] ORL BRIDGEMAN
THO. CHOLMONDELEY.[5]

To our very Worthy Friend S[r] Francis
Oatley at Shrewsbury these

L. THO. HANMER TO THE SAME.

1642-3.

SIR,—Understanding that Sir Richard Wilbraham and Mr. Roger Wilbraham are recom'ended to your Custody and care by the Lords and others the Commissioners of Array of this County of Chester, and concerning that for the manner of their restraint, it will be much left to your discretion untill his Maj[ties] pleasure be further known, Upon their desires I am bold to entreat you to Afford them Such Accommodation of Lodging and other necessaryes as may be fitt Gentlemen, and may not contradict the Trust réposed in you, and I shall rest

Your Most Affectionate Friend and Servant

Chester 9[th] Feb. 1642. THO: HANMER.

[directions torn.]

LI. EDW. HYDE TO THE SAME.

1642-3.

S[r]

Your Comissyon was sent 8 days since by a Messenger Mr. Bushell undertook should deliver it safely, so I hope

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1626, with Remainder to his son-in-law, Sir Thomas Savage, and his heirs male. Thomas John Savage, Earl Rivers, compounded for his estate by payment of £1,110, and died 1654.—G. M.

[1] Robert Kilmorey—Robert Needham, 2nd Viscount Kilmorey.—G. M.

[2] R. Cholmondeley—Robert Lord Cholmondely before noticed.—G.M.

[3] Thomas Savage of Beerton, Co. Chester. He compounded for his estate by paying £557.—G. M.

[4] Sir Geoffrey Shakerley of Holme, Co. Chester. In Pennant's *Wales*, vi., p. 482, 4th edit., is an account of a gallant exploit performed by this staunch loyalist, who compounded for his estate by payment of £784.—G. M.

[5] Thomas Cholmondeley of Vale Royal, Esq., Sheriff of Co. Chester 1638. He compounded for his estate by payment of £450, and died January 3, 1652-3.—G. M.

though it hath travelled slowly tis by this tyme safely come to your hands. Sir J. Wild is safely arrived heare, but hath yet given me no account of your desyres, so that I know not what to say to them. I am very sorry you can make no certayne provision of Armes. I understood by Dr. Babington that you had gotten fellows there to make musketts, however pray make what shifte you can for I assure you it will be the greatest service you can do his Ma^ty^ if you could help him to 1000 Armes.

Pray excuse me to Dr. Babington for not writing to him and tell him there shall be a letter sent by the next conveyance to the B'p'p to pay the tenths for the purpose he desyres, therefore desyre him to proceed in making provisyon. I wonder the Mayor of Shrewsbury hath receyved no more Money considering that of the Subscribers there is so much behinde. Excuse this hast of

S^r^ Your very Affectionate serv^t^

Oxford this 9^th^ of Feb. EDW: HYDE.

This Gentleman S^r^ Ric. Byron is sent by his Ma^ty^ to commande the fforces for reducinge Cheshyre. He is a right worthy Gentleman.

To my Worthy ffriend S^r^ ffrancis Ottley Knt. at his House in Shrewsbury these.

LII. ORL. BRIDGEMAN TO THE SAME.

1642-3

NOBLE SIR

This boy is going to Court, if you will command him any service he will bee a safe Messinger. S^r^ Richard Wilbraham and M^r^ Roger Wilbraham are seized on by order from hence and sent to Chirk Castle from thence to Shrewsbury, where they are to stay till his Ma^tyes^ further pleasure bee knowne. Y^u^ are written to about it by the Com^rs^ and tomorrow they will bee at Shrewsbury in expectation of what o^r^ good neighb^ors^ of Shropshire will doe, wee stay here and rest

Y^r^ Assured servt

Chester Feb^y^ 10 1642. ORL. BRIDGEMAN.

To my Noble freind
S^r^ ffrancis Oatley at
Shrewsbury.

LIII. RI. LLOYD TO SIR FRANCIS OTTLEY, KNIGHT.

1642-3.

SIR

This gentleman coming from Cumberland upon his Ma^ties special Service of importance comes recom'ended from diverse of the Kings servants and freinds and particularly from Mr Bridgeman. His business requires special speede and therefore I beseech you to see to his accom'odation for horse, otherwise the hindrance may turne much to the p'judice of his Ma^ties Service. If the Gentlemen of Shropshire doe not speedily and affectionately resent the troubles of Cheshire we shall all be sacrificed,ffor all the com'on people in Cheshire are poysoned. S^r Jo: Gell and some forces from my L^d Brooke are to Joyne w^th S^r W. Brereton's forces and all in a body to harrowe these northern parts.

S^r I am y^r most humble Servant

Wrexham this 10^th of ffeb, 1642. RI: LLOYD.

for my much honoured and noble freind S^r ffrancis Otteley at Shrewsbury these.

LIV. TOM. EYTON TO THE SAME.

1642-3.

FRANK

Here we are ready for any work we shall be set on, for our own Countrymen will give us no Wages. Yesterday the Neighbouring People gave us an Alarm, Betwixte 40 and 50 Issued out of Nampw^ch, did some harm by plundering and took away an honest sick Gent: and 2 of his Servants, and lighted on 2 or 3 of Ned Owens Men and returned. I know you have been told the discourse before this, I pray be a Means to send in unto me all my Soldiers of the Town, Dick Williams and the rest: well Adieu till I see [you] I rest in hast

Whitch: Sunday 11^th Feb. 1642. Thy TOM: EYTON.

To S^r Francis Ottley at Shrewsbury give these.

LV. THO. WILBRAHAM TO THE SAME.

NOBLE S^r

The Misereyes of these times mackes us right Sensible of Frends, I account myself much happy in finding you (by

testemony of your letter). I esteem it a right act of your love, persist (noe Jelosey) to be your Frends Frend still in your care and favour to my Father; therein continue, and when I fayle to be ungratefull (*sic*), let all men forbear to write me man. For my man I solely appeal to you hoping my Inosensey may Acquit him, whereof be you Judge: my Duty bound me to enquire After my Father, (not knowing where he was) I assure you this was the only Cause I sent him, noe other beliefe I begge from you, but the truth, and that I will ever remain

Your Assured Frend to Com'and

Chester this 17 of February 1642. THO: WILBRAHAM.

LVI. T. EYTON TO THE SAME.

1642-3.

HONEST FRANCISCO

Having so fitt Oppertunity I thought good to give you Account of what we do here, and such Occurencies as have happened in these parts, this Morning about 10 a clock, Coll Hastings Marched out of Town with about 700 Horse; I speak with the least I am sure for they have 15 Colours, I suppose they walk toward where S^r^ W^m^ Brereton was last Night, whether he will stay for them or not I know not; which way he wheeles his Long face is not yet known here; last night he sent out betwixt 2 and 300 Horse, it was conjectured here either to plunder S^r^ John persalls or M^r^ Will^m^ Fitzherbert's House, but the more learned think he removed further of from M^r^ Hastings, as not willing to endure the breath of the Malignant: this Night we expect some News, what happens at Any time worthy your Cognizance [I] shall Studye to Acquaint you with, in the mean time I remain

Thy T: EYTON.

Stafford 18 Feb. 1642

To y^e^ Worthy Governor of Shrewsbury S^r^ Francis Ottley these present.

LVII. THO. CORBETT TO THE SAME.

1642-3.

NOBLE SIR

The Bayliffs of Bridgnorth in the behalf of the Town having ben importunate with me to take upon me the Exer-

cising the young men in this Town and others in the County near adjoining for the defence of the Town upon any needfull design, I have ben perswaded by them to take the same upon me, and they having shewn me a letter which they intend to present unto the high Sheriff for a warrant unto me in that behalf. I pray be pleased to consider thereof, and Imp^{t} your advise unto me, and further M^{r} Sheriff's direction therein as you in your Wisdom shall think most convenient, and you shall Oblige unto you

Your respective [*sic*] Kinsman
and freind who truly
Honoureth you

THO: CORBETT.

Bridgnorth
55 Feb. 1642.

To my noble Friend and
kinsman Sir Francis Ottley Knight
at Shrewsbury
present these.

LVIII. WA. JAMES TO THE SAME.

SIR,

I would have gladly wayted uppon you, but false alarums call me to send out men for the discovery of Sir William Bruerton [who] is at Newcastle. Sir Thomas . . . sent unto me to send out. I have 2 Horses I believe will scarce recover for my servise any more, they have been so infinitely rid forth for the defence of Commanders when they are here with us, and at other times when occasions serve justly, and [we] have reasonable number to resist which I hope we shall have now: The Governor of Stafford is gone from Stafford quite away; Collonell Hastings upon his march towards Tamworth fell upon Russhall House, M^{r} Lees who is with Bruerton, upon tuesday last at 8 of the Clock in the morning, and continued untill 4 in the afternoon and then they Yielded the House unto them, tooke 21 Prisoners [with] the young woman, and so he hath left a considerable number of Men behind in that Howse; thus in hast I rest your Humble servant

WA: JAM:

Sir I wou'd you would be pleased to send me an Answer by this bearer what you in your [Judgement] know me to [be entitled to] receive, for [that] I have been at a very great charge, it is very well known, which if you send any by this Bearer he is very honest.

To my much Honor'd Frend
Sir Francis Ottley Governor of Shrewsbury
My Service.

LIX. WA. JAMES TO THE SAME.

My Most Honnored

I am fearfull of my neglect should procure a Jelosie from you but I hope Mr Betton hath acquainted you that the death of a father may Chaleng some privelidg, that I could not execute your Command; we have had this day a post from Oxford Gentlemen that are to Collonell hastings their designe it did me impertune, because they were absolut affected to his Majestie I have search . . . . . cannot find that I would you may imagin . . . . were sent to a . . . . Man in our County; the Letter was to no purpose; we hear the Lord Brook is not removed out of Coventry; Walter howgrave came from Stafford this Instant, a neare Servant unto Sir Thomas Eieton brought this news: more I cannot inform [you]

Your Humble Servant
to command

Newport Feb. 26

Wa: Ja:

To Sir Francis Ottley
Governor of Sallop
My Servis.

LX. THOMAS LEGH TO THE SAME.

1642-3.

This Gentleman the bearer hereof one of an Approved fidelity to the King is desirous with some others in his Company to tender their Service to his Maty and have requested me to trouble you with these lines which desire you so far to countenance them therein that by Yor means they may attayne that favor as to kiss his Matys hand, the performance of which curtesie will oblige me ever to remayne

Yr Affectionate Servant
Sweet Governor

Chester 27 Feb. 1642

Thomas Legh.

To my honored Friend
Sr Francis Ottley Knight
Governor of Shrewsbury
pre't These

LXI. HUGHE MAURICE TO THE SAME.

Worthy Sr

My service remembered &c., being in Chester all the last week My Lady Wilbraham shewed me letters that she had

to her Husband S^r^ Richard Wilbraham: I read them my selfe, and upon this I promised to convey them unto you, not doubting but you will deliver them Accordingly; for you may reade them first: having not else at this p^r^sent I take leave and rest Yours to

com'and

HUGHE MAURICE.

Feb. 27^th^ 1642.

If you will write unto me I pray let your letter be directed to Chester for I shall be there.

To the right Wo^ll^ Sir Francis Ottley Knight
at Shrewsburie these p^r^sent.
I pray deliver the l're to M^r^ Edward
Morris of the Swanne
to be deliverd as above.

LXII. WILLI. RUSSELL TO THE SAME.

1642-3.

HONORED SIR,

Three Barrells of powder comming without an owner or a pass I have stayed, and upon the receipt of your letter, I should have immediately despatched it up to you, but having entellegence of my Lord Brookes his forces neere this County and not knowing what use I may have of it, though I cannot complain of a great want, I shall desire as a Courtesie you will not impute it to an unwillingness of observing your Commands if I stay it some few days, assureing you that a farr greater Courtesie you shall freely Command from Sir

Your Servant

WILLI. RUSSELL.[1]

Worcester feb. 28, 1642.

To his honored frend Sir ffrancis
Ottley Governor of Shrewsbury these present.

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[1] Sir William Russell, of Strensham, Co. Worcester, 1st Baronet, one of the King's most zealous supporters. He was Governor of Worcester, compounded for his estate by payment of £1,800, with £50 *per annum* settled, and died 1669.—G. M.

[1] See Wilson, Diary of Benjamin Rp. Haydon, for Haydon, one of the Vice-Presidents of the Society.

LXIII. WALTER JAMES TO THE SAME.

SIR 1642-3.

I was Yesterday at Stafford, the report was then that the Lord Brooke was com unto Colshill and so far Uttecter which coming that way is to gether up forces for he in himself is not the . . . man that is reported, I have 3 kinsmen that are by Colshill, and Brooke hath sent unto them for the 20th part of their Estate which if they refuse to pay they shall be plunder'd &c. how that Miserable condition of that country is, I hope this day I shall hear, and then shall you have the rest of his removing, which I hope will be for hell, and then there will no need of intelligence, so in hast I commend my service unto you to be commanded

WALTER JAMES.

Newport Feb. 29th 1642.

To Sir Francis Ottley
Governer of Sallop
present these

Sir Francis Worsley is at Oxford, his Souldiers at Stafford, and the Town would gladly be shutt of them if they could tell how.

LXIV. W. SMITH TO THE SAME.

NOBLE SIR 1642-3.

I return you many thanks for yor great favour earnestly desiring yor Occasions here wou'd engage me to some acceptable service: Sr Edward Hyde now Chanlor of the Exchequer hath accepted of Yor Appointment for the 15o and I may have it when I will call for it, I am informed my good paymasters are again become Prisoners. If I had more and you less of their company I suppose it would be better for us both; peradventure you may ere long hear more to that purpose; we expect not the Queen here as yet this Month; we have now one come for a Safe Conduct for the Earl of Northumberland and the L. Say; but it is suppose his Maty will not treat with a proclaimed Traytor.

Sr I present Yor Self and Yor Vertuous Lady with my humble Service and rest

Yor Obliged freind and Servant

Oxford March 2d 1642. W. SMITH.

I had notice of your Welfare this day by my Man George Cross.

For the Worthily honoured Sr Francis Oateley Knt and Governor of Shrewsbury present this with my service att Shrewsbury.

(To be Continued).

ADNITT & NAUNTON LITHS, SALOP

SELATTYN: A HISTORY OF THE PARISH.

By the Hon. Mrs. BULKELEY-OWEN.

(Continued from 2nd Series, Vol. V., page 342).

CHAPTER VI.

THE CHURCH.

There must have been a Church at Selattyn from very early times, though not standing upon the present site.

Duke, in his *Antiquities of Shropshire*, tells us that "the people say the first Church was at Pentre Clawdd." No traces of that Church have ever been discovered, though it is quite possible that a Chapel may have existed there for the use of the Pentref or Hamlet.

The name of the field, "Bryn yr Hen Eglwys," facing the Rectory to the south, probably indicates the site of the original Parish Church.

The following legend of its foundation is given us by Pennant, who quotes from the MSS. of Edward Lloyd of Drenewydd:—"A noble Briton, being engaged in the chase, found in a thicket on this spot a white hind, which determined him (after the example of Ethelred, King of the Mercians, in the instance of St. John's Church, Chester), to dedicate it to sacred uses. He accordingly translated to this place the ancient Church which tradition says stood before on a spot still called 'Bryn yr Hen Eglwys,' or the hill of the old Church."[1]

I see no reason to doubt that a noble Briton was the founder of the Church, though it is highly improbable that he was moved to build it by the example of one of

[1] *Tour in Wales*, vol. i., p. 360.

the Saxon conquerors. The lives of the Welsh saints abound in legends of deer. We read in the Life of Saint Cadoc of two stags, who set "aside their wildness" and drew wood for the rebuilding of the Monastery of Llancarvan [circa 447]. [1]

S. Illtyd, founder of the famous College of Llanilltyd Fawr, or Llantwit Major [circa 520] protected a poor hunted stag that had taken refuge with him from its pursuers. It was afterwards tamed by S. Illtyd and became useful in drawing timber for building.[2]

An angel foretold in a dream to Sandde, King of Ceredigion, the birth of his son, St. David, whom he compared to a stag, of which he gave Sandde the following beautiful definition, drawn partly from the symbolism of Psalm 42 :—"The stag," said the angel, "signifies power over the ancient Serpent ; for as the stag deprived of his pasture by serpents, and desiring a fountain of water, having received strength is renewed as in youth ; so he placed on high, as with the legs of stags, will deprive the ancient Serpent of mankind of his power of hurting against himself, and obtain the fountain of life by his constant shedding of tears ; and, daily renewed by the frugality of moderate food, will in the name of the Holy Trinity obtain a salutary knowledge, and begin to have power to govern demons." [3]

The Church of Llangar, or as it should be written, of Llan garw gwyn, near Corwen, has a legend that "a white stag was started in the thicket where the church now is, and that wherever he ran that became the boundary of the parish." [4]

The red stag of Llandderfel existed as long as 1730, when an iconoclastic Rural Dean ordered it to be decapitated.[5]

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[1] *Lives of the Cambro-British Saints*, Rees's ed. 1853, p. 329. Nantcarvan means the "Valley of Stags."

[2] *Ibid*, p. 473.

[3] *Ibid*, p. 419, from the Cotton MSS. Brit. Mus.

[4] *Hist. S. Asaph*, p. 711.

[5] *Ibid*, p. 678.

The first historic mention of the Church of Selattyn is given us in the Taxatio of Pope Nicholas, 1291. It is there called "Eccl'ia de Hilatwon," with a various reading, "Sulatwn," and is valued at £6 13s. 4d.; dec. 13s. 4d. [1]

The advowson of the living was in possession of Fulk Fitz Warin, Lord of the Manor of Whittington, on July 7th, 1331, as we have seen by an Inquisition taken at that date [2] before Sir John de Hynkeley and Thomas Eggefeld, clerk. It was valued then at £5. [3]

It is there called "Ecclesia de Celatton." An anonymous and undated MS. has from this tried to supply us with a solution of the meaning of the name Selattyn. It says, "Syllattin, Syllatyn, or Sellatyn, takes its name from Cælestine the Pope, when St. Martin was Bishop of Tours."

We have but to look at the earliest known spelling, "Sulatton," to contradict this myth.

Various puns have been made upon the modern spelling of the name, such as "Selatti hi, i.e., shoot at her"; or that the village was so called from a local schoolmaster, who said, "I sell Latin."

On the first page of the Register we find, written in a modern hand by some would-be etymologist, "Different modes of writing the name of this place. Saleurdine [4] written in Domesday book, 1586. Syllatin, Sillattyn, Slattyn, Selattyn, so written in 1800. Sillatin, see Pennant. Sillatton, see Chalice. Silatton, see 1587."

Others have tried to connect the name with "Sul," a Saxon word signifying ploughland. The origin of the name still remains a mystery; it has nothing to do with the patron saint, who is S. Mary.[5]

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[1] *Hist. S. Asaph*, p. 667.

[2] Chapter i., p. 15.

[3] The Church of Whittington was valued at £10. Thomas Eggefeld may have been an early Rector of Selattyn or of Whittington.

[4] Salcurdine was in Baschurch Hundred.

[5] Bacon's *Liber Regis*, and Browne Willis.

The Dedication Festival is 8th Sept., the Nativity of B.V.M.

In the Inquisition of 1412-13, we find the advowson valued at "six marks."

The Valor of 1534-35 gives it as in gross, "£13 6s. 8d.; clare, £12 9s. 6d.; dec., £1 4s. 11¼d.

Selattyn was in the Deanery of Marchia until 27 Henry VIII., when an Act was passed, of which section xi. enacted, "that after the Feast of All Saints, the Lordships of Oswester, Whetington, Masbroke, and Knoking, with their members, should be taken, named, and known by the name of the hundred of Oswester, in the County of Salop."

We have no information as to the building of the present Church, and there is nothing in the building to lead us to any definite conclusion. There is an interesting relic of the earlier Church in the moulded head of the south window of the chancel. It has been formed from a large incised grave cover or coffin lid. The stem of the cross and part of the Calvary at the base, as well as some of the circles that formed the geometrical head can be readily traced. This slab is of 12th century date.

Several pieces of early English, 13th century stonework, were found within the north wall when it was removed during the alterations in 1890.

The old part of the existing Church is mainly perpendicular, of about the middle of the 15th century, when the present fine oak roofs were put on, and the windows altered to their present style.

It then consisted of a chancel 32 ft. by 18 ft. 6 in., containing a south door for the priest; and a nave 48 ft. by 18 ft. 6 in., internally under a continuous roof, and with nothing externally to denote the division between the two, but which was then marked internally by the increased richness of the chancel roof, and later on by a screen and rood-loft.

We learn from the Register that "the present steeple began to be built in May A.D. 1703. John Jones, B.D.,

Rector, John Thomas of Pentre Clawdd, and John Kyffin of Trivallyre, Churchwardens." A stone near its base on the south side bears the date 1704. It took the place of a former steeple, as we know from the Inventory taken in 1553, signed by the Rector, Robert Staney.

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE EXCHEQUER.

Q. R. CHURCH GOODS, SALOP, $\frac{3}{21}$ M 8.

SULATIN.

Thys byll yndentyd made the [ ] day of May yn the sevynth yere of our moste dread soverant lord Kynge Edward the vjth bytwyxte Andrew Corbett,[1] Rycharde Maneuryng[2] Knyghtes, & Ryc'd Newport Esquier[3] of the on party & Robert Stañee parson, Roberd Ap Gruff' & John ap davyt cherchewardesse, of the other partye. Wytnesyt that the sayd Roberd & Roberd & John ar bonden & do confesse ourselves by these presentes to be chargyd & bonden to save, kyepe unstolne, unsolde, unbelueyd, ij bells, on Chalyce of selver w^{t} the paten therto belongyng now yn the paryche [Church] & Stepull; as we wyll anser therforre. Yn wytnes whereof we have put to our hands the day & yere above sayd.

Robert Stanay

This Commission throws no light upon any articles of value, such as jewels, crosses, vestments, etc., which the Church may have possessed before, it merely informs us what the Commissioners thought fit to leave in statu quo, they were empowered "to make seizure of all goods in Cathedral or parish Churches . . . and they were bound to leave no more than one Chalice for the Communion Service."[4] It is not, however, likely that

[1] Sir Andrew Corbet of Morton Corbet, Co. Salop, Sheriff 1551, mar. Jane, d. of Robt. Nedham of Shavington; died 1578. (*Her. Visit. Shrop.*, p. 136).

[2] Sir Richard Manwaring of Ightfeld, Co. Salop, mar. Dorothea, d. of Sir Robert Corbet of Morton Corbet, Sheriff Shrop. 1507, who died 5 Hen. VIII.

[3] Richard Newport of High Ercall, Sheriff Shrop. 1552, mar. Margaret, only d. and heir of Sir Thomas Bromley, Chief Justice.

[4] Collier's *Ch. Hist.*, Book IV., p. 505.

they found anything in this little hillside Church of sufficient value to carry off for the King's treasury.

There is a diversity of opinion as to the structure termed a "stepull" in 1553. C. Hodgson Fowler, Esq., F.S.A., who restored the church in 1890, is of opinion that it was "probably a wooden bell turret rising out of the western bay of the nave, for during the recent works that bay was found to be of very common and comparatively modern work. It showed that some alteration had been made there, which would, of course, be the case, when the bell turret was removed and the present tower built in 1703.

This tower is very roughly built, and exceedingly rude in design, evidently the work of a local mason, who endeavoured to reproduce, and with very fair success, the general features of mediæval towers that he had, no doubt, seen elsewhere. It certainly was not built from the design of any of the architects then living, who were all working in English renaissance."

Dr. Cox, F.S.A., takes a different view of the question. He writes:—"The Tower is a remarkable venture for the time of Queen Anne. It consists of three diminishing stages, and is embattled. The general effect is picturesque and bold; no builder or architect of that period would have produced such work, unless they had to some extent copied a previous steeple. The belfry stage is lighted by four small windows of two lights, formed by a substantial central mullion, capped by a single stone moulded into two semi-circular heads. This seems to be a shallow reproduction of Saxon work, and I conjecture that the old tower was of late Saxon or early Norman character. Another special feature of the tower is the far projecting diagonal buttresses at the west, which graduate off in a series of steps. Altogether the tower is a striking feature of the Church, and not a little remarkable for the time in which it was built. Probably the old tower had been buttressed up and altered in early English times, as well as at a later date. The buttresses on the east that die away into

the nave, do not seem to have been interfered with in 1703-4."

Some small repairs took place in 1751. On the 21st December we find "Received by Thomas Conway and William Jaret the sum of £3 15s. in full for the repairs of the Church."

Somewhere early in the 16th century the Church was enriched by a very remarkable rood-screen and loft, with, doubtless, a rood with attendant figures on it. This screen and loft remained until 1751 or 2, as "at a Vestry held" Dec. 22, 1751,[1] "it was agreed that the Cancelli or partition between the Church and chancel should be taken away. Present Edd. Maurice [curate], J. Venables, Edd. Richardson, John Arthur." This was accordingly done, but fortunately all the heavier woodwork of it was used for making a gallery at the west end, where it was found during the recent work, though concealed by later additions.

Enough, however, remains to show that the screen had a central doorway, and three compartments on either side of it, and over it the loft extended 10 ft. into and over the chancel, forming thus a large room 18 ft 6in. long and 10 ft. wide. The alterations early in this century removed all traces of the means of access to the rood-loft; probably it was by a wooden stair in the chancel.

"In 1748 the chancel was reflagged and wainscoted by Rector Hanmer, with the help of some of the chief parishioners, in consideration of his allowing them seats there."[2] His work, though cut and altered in 1821, has recently been carefully restored, and still adorns the chancel.

It was usual for the patron of the living and for other "persons of quality" to worship in the chancel

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[1] We learn from a book at S. Asaph Palace that most of the rood-lofts were removed in 1731, and that "some of the people objected." Possibly Rector Hanmer prevented this spoliation. It was removed the year after the appointment of his successor.

[2] Bishop's Book, S. Asaph.

and have sitting accommodation there from the very earliest times. It was enacted in the year 1287, by a Synod held at Exeter that "no one from henceforth may claim a seat in Church as his own, noble persons and patrons of churches alone excepted. He who for the cause of prayer, shall first enter a Church, let him select a place of prayer according to his will."[1]

We have no record of appropriated seats at Selattyn earlier than the Chancel seats of 1748, though doubtless they existed, and we have fragments of the old Jacobean pews, which are now in the wall panelling.

Seats were allotted for money as far back as 1457-8 in the south of England.[2] At the Parish Church of St. Christopher le Stocks, of which Robert Staney became Rector in 1536, he found that in 1524 twelve persons had been chosen as assessors "to sesse every piew severally at a certain summa." We may be permitted to hope, in the absence of any evidence to the contrary, that he did not introduce this practice at Selattyn.

The first mention of the traffic in pews in the nave is to be found in the Register under

May 28, 1766.

I, Peter Tomkies, in the Co. of Salop, shoemaker, do hereby consent and agree with the inhabitants of the Parish of Selattyn, that for the value of two shillings paid yearly to me by the churchwardens of the said Parish, a seat adjoining the Reading Desk be hereafter let unto the Parishioners for the use of the clerk to sit in, provided that only one person may be admitted to sit with him in the same seat upon the Sabbath Day. In witness whereof I have set my hand the day and year above mentioned.

PETER TOMKIES.

Witness

WM. EDWARDS
ROBERT HUGHES } Churchwardens.

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[1] *Hist. of Seat Reservation in Churches*, written for Soc. of Antiquaries, W. J. Hardy, F.S.A., 1892.

[2] Ibid p. 5. At Yeovil.

By what right Peter Tomkies held this Pew and let it, history does not state; his right was evidently held to be hereditary, for the Rector, the Rev. J. R. Lloyd, eventually bought it for the use of the clerk from Edward Tomkies in September, 1785, and made a present of it to the Parish.

In 1772 a Brief was obtained for the rebuilding of the Church.

George the III. by the Grace of God. . . .

Whereas it hath been represented to us well upon the Petition of the Rector, Churchwardens, and the major part of the principal inhabitants of the parish of Selattyn Co. Salop . . . . upon the 15th Janry. xith year of our reign that the Parish Church of Selattyn is a very ancient building . . . . and become ruinous . . . . and unsafe . . . . and too small for the number of Parishioners and by the oaths of experienced workmen who have viewed the Church and made an estimate of the charge of taking down and rebuilding the same upon a moderate charge, which computation will amount to £1,250 and upwards, exclusive of old materials, which the saide parishioners are unable to raise amongst themselves being mostly Tenants. . . .

We grant unto them our most gracious letters patent to our loving subjects . . . . to ask and collect alms . . . . throughout England and our town of Berwick on Tweed, our counties of Flint, Denbigh and Radnor in Wales, and from house to house throughout our counties of Salop, Hereford, Stafford, Worcester and Chester to enable them to rebuild their said Church. . . .

We constitute and appoint the Rt. Rev. the Lord Bishop of St. Asaph,[1] Sir Watkin Williams Wynn Bt.,[2] Rich. Myddleton,[3] John Mytton,[4] Robert Godolphin Owen,[5] and John Owen,[6] Esquires, William Wynne,[7] William Worthington,[8] D.D. Wm. Boyd, Wm. Roberts,[9] Thomas Trevor,[10] Joseph Dixon, David

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[1] Jonathan Shipley, D.D. [2] Of Wynnstay.
[3] Of Chirk Castle.
[4] Of Halston, Whittington Parish.
[5] Of Porkington. [6] Of Penrhos.
[7] Canon of St. Asaph, Vicar of Llanfechain 1735-1776.
[8] Prebend of Meifod. Then Rector of Llanrhaiadr-yn-Mochnant.
[9] Rector of Whittington and Selattyn.
[10] Vicar of Oswestry.

Griffiths, Joshua Adams, Owen Reynolds,[1] David Price[2] and John Jeffreys[3] Clerks, the Minister and Churchwardens, ... to make and sign all necessary orders for the due collection of this Brief and advancement of the said charity. . . .

22 Janry. the 12th year of our reign.

Signed BATHURST.[4]

Fortunately the Church was only repaired and not rebuilt at the above date. The Parish Register informs us that it was "new Pewed in ye year 1772 and in ye year 1773 finished by Thomas Ellis and Edward Smallman *Powers*."

What the last word of that entry may mean I do not know, unless that they exerted themselves in begging money to pay for the work. Thomas Ellis was the Parish Clerk.

The next entry respecting the Pews refers to the Lord of the Manor, "Mr. Lloyd having caused the word Patron to be renew'd over the Rector's Pew in the Chancel."

He writes the following letter of apology to the Rector:—

Mr. Lloyd's compts. to Mr. Roberts and would have answered his note sooner had he seen his steward to know his reason for inserting the Patron's name on the Pew at Sellatin, but will give orders for the whole to be erased, and the Rector's only shall be put on it. For Mr. Lloyd would not deprive the Rector or Church of any emolument whatever.

Aston, Saturday Even. July 3, 1773.

Some slight alteration was made to the panelling in 1779, for we find "Paid to Charles Conway by order of Mr. Roberts for altering the wainscoating 4/4." He had been appointed Clerk on the death of Thomas Ellis in 1779.

On Nov. 5, 1788, the Vestry "ordered that a door be made in the end of the steeple, that the present

[1] Master Oswestry Grammar School.
[2] Vicar of Chirk.
[3] Curate of Selattyn.
[4] Brit. Mus. Harl. MS. 6,276, B. xii. 3.

door be built up and the space between Mr. Edwards[1] and Robert Lloyd's[2] seats be sold to the Wardens after they have properly pew'd the same." This new doorway appears to have been the principal one, until the recent alterations, when it was built up and the old south doorway re-opened and a new half timbered porch built by the Rev. T. Powell in memory of his brother-in-law, Rowland Jones Venables of Oakhurst, and of Harriet his wife.[3]

The south doorway was not built up until the following year.

Nov. 5, 1789, the Vestry "Ordered that the old door be built up level with the wall in the inside and outside of the Church, and made like the other part of the walls, also that the space within the Church be sold by the Churchwardens to the best bidder on the 21st day of December next at the Cross Keys in Sylattyn at the hour of 12 for the purpose of making a pew similar to the rest of the Pews in the Church."

This Vestry seems to have reached the lowest depth of degradation in ordering a sale by auction in a public-house of a portion of God's house.

The Old Porch was still left standing.

Nov. 5, 1791. The Vestry "agreed that the Old Porch be converted into a Vestry room and for that purpose the Churchwardens are directed to make a fireplace and window in the south end thereof and provide a table."

A sketch in India ink of the Church as it then was, was taken by D. Park, a Schoolmaster in Shrewsbury between the years 1806-1826. It is preserved in the British Museum. Our frontispiece is taken from it.[4]

The Vestry "also agreed that the vacant ground within the Church near to the old Door be disposed of, leaving a passage of 2 feet 6 inches at the side of Mount Sion seat to lead to the new Vestry room

[1] Of Oldport. [2] Of Swanhill.
[3] She is still living.
[4] Add. MSS. 21,012 Plut. clxxv. H.

through a Door at the end thereof above which a window is directed to be made to give light under the gallery."

"The vacant ground above mentioned was sold to Mrs. Edwards of Oldport for one pound one shilling the same day."

The window then ordered to be made was probably the dormer window depicted in the sketch.

No further alterations appear to have been made until 1821, except that on 28th Oct., 1805,—

"The Vestry agreed to a lewn of 2d. per pound towards constructing a flue for Warming the Church. Estimate £23 13s. 3d."

The North transept was built in 1821, and the South transept in 1828. The Old Porch survived as a Vestry until the later date, when a new Vestry was made in the south transept, the pewing rearranged to suit the transepts, and the fine oak roofs of nave and chancel were concealed by a continuous arched plaster ceiling, without any ornamentation, which gave the Church the effect of a tunnel.

Such is briefly the history of the Church, and it remains only to describe more fully the ancient features and the alterations and improvements recently carried out.

Although, as before stated, no part of the present fabric can certainly be ascribed to the 13th century, the bowl of the Font is undoubtedly of that date. It is circular in plan, and has round its upper part a band of running foliage. The original shaft and base had been destroyed, and it is now fixed on a new one.

All the ancient windows are square-headed, with the exception of the east one, only two of them retained their original mullions and cusped heads, and they contain no old stained glass. In 1892 the east window, which contains three lights, was filled with stained glass[1] by his daughter, in memory of John Ralph, 1st Baron Harlech.[2]

[1] By C. E. Kempe, Esq., F.S.A.

[2] A window representing the Resurrection was placed to his memory in the south transept of Oswestry Parish Church by his wife Sarah, Lady Harlech.

The central subject is the Crucifixion, with the Blessed Virgin and St. John on either side. Below are hung three heraldic shields, the central one containing the Coat of Gore and Ormsby with Tyrell on an escutcheon of pretence, and the others those of Lacon of Porkington, Maurice of Clenenney, Gruffyd ap Cynan; and of Owen of Bodsilin, Wynn of Glyn, and Godolphin. The south doorway, of which such frequent mention has been made, is exceedingly plain, having merely a single chamfered order. Close to it, in the south wall of the nave, is a mutilated stoup, cut away, no doubt, for the pews.

But the glory of the Church, and altogether its most striking feature, is the very beautiful oak roofing. The nave roof is of five bays, divided by heavily timbered and moulded arched principals, with moulded purlins and cusped windbraces and heavy rafters. The chancel roof is of four bays with similar principals, but with arched panelling between them, with ridge and purlins, beautifully carved with running patterns of foliage, and each bay further subdivided by richly moulded and carved ribs into fifty compartments, each originally having a traceried head. Most of these tracery panels had been destroyed when the roofs were ceiled, but enough remained to show how very rich the effect must have been when all the 200 compartments were thus ornamented.

The recent works embraced a thorough and careful restoration of these roofs, all the old timbers being carefully repaired and made good and bolted together, the arched panelling entirely restored with all the old panels of tracery that had been left above the plaster ceiling, and a certain number of new ones added, so as to complete the Eastern bay of the Chancel roof, and bring it back to its original richness.

In 1890 the Church was enlarged and thoroughly repaired, a North Aisle of six bays being added, extending to the East wall of the modern North Transept, which is thus partially absorbed by the Aisle, its northern portion being left and used as a Vestry.

The South Transept has been shortened, and with a new South window and a panelled roof no longer looks a blot on the Church, while it serves both for an organ chamber and for additional sittings.

The Chancel has been brought out to nearly its original length, and re-seated with choir seats in oak, with a new floor of stone, in which the old ledger stones are relaid.

The inscriptions upon them are as follow :—

H. S. E.
Robertus Owen de Porkington Eques auratus
Ex antiquo Hwfæ ap Cŷnddelw et Regis Oeni
Gwyneth stemmate oriundus.
Probitate et fortitudine Clarus,
Nulli infestus
Plurimis amicus
Bonis omnibus charus
dum vixit amatus
Desideratus dum obiit
3° Kalendarum Aprilis
MD.C.XC.VIII.
Hic etiam in Sinu Patris Condormiunt
Wilhelmus Owen qui 15° April 1685
Francesca Owen quæ 11° December 1696
Edwardus Owen qui 10° Janu. 1697,
obierunt.

The inscription is surmounted by a Shield bearing—

1. *Gules. a Chev. inter 3 lions ramp, or* (Owen of Bodsilin).
2. *Vert. 3 Eagles displayed in fesse or* (Maurice of Clenenney).
3. *Gules. 3 lions passant in pale arg.* (Gruffyd ap Cynan).
4. *Per fesse indented, Erm. and azure* (Lacon of Porkington).

On an Escutcheon of pretence—

Erm. a saltire gu. with a crescent for difference (Wynn of Glyn).

Here lieth
Dame Margaret Owen relict of Sir Robert Owen of Porkington Knt. and eldest daughter of Owen Wynn of Glynn in the County of Merioneth Esq who died April 10th 1727 aged 64.
Here also lieth
Her son Arthur Owen who died the 22nd day of July 1739 aged 46.

The North Transept has been [illegible] and with a new South window [illegible] the Church, which it [illegible] chamber and for additional seating.

The Chancel has been brought out to nearly its original length, and [illegible] with a new floor of [illegible] the old ledger stones are relaid.

The inscriptions upon them are as follows:—

H. S. E.

[illegible]

The inscription is surmounted by a Shield bearing—

1. [illegible]
2. [illegible]
3. [illegible]
4. [illegible]

Crest [illegible]

[illegible]

Here lies

[illegible]

Here [illegible]

[illegible]

Here lieth
the body of Ellen Owen eldest daughter of William Owen of Porkington in this Parish Esq, and Catherine his wife, the only child of Lewis Anwill of Parke in the County of Merioneth Esq. Deceased the 20th of August 1702.
Aged 51.
Also William Owen of Porkington, Esq—son & heir of Sir Robert Owen. He departed this life 14th February 1767, in the 79th year of his age,

There is a lozenge-shaped shield at the top of the above inscription which is nearly obliterated.

Here also lieth the body of
Francis Owen son of William Owen, late of Porkington Esq, who departed this life Nov. the 16th 1774 in the 29th year of his age.

The above stones all lay on the south-east of the Chancel. The only one commemorating a Hanmer lay on the north side.

"Underneath is deposited the body of the Rev.d Thomas Hanmer, M.A., late Rector of this Parish, who died the 27th Feb. 1749. Aged 71."

also
The remains of William Leigh who departed this life 20th of March, 1805.

A small brass tablet lies on the floor to

"Harrietta
One of the Dau'rs of the Rd Wm. Roberts Rector of this Parish by Susanna his wife Died April 13th, 1753,
aged 3."

The following Monumental Tablets hang on the walls of the Church: —

A wooden shield bearing the Hanmer Arms—*Az. 2 lions passant guardant, or.*, and the following inscription:

"Here lyeth interr'd the body of Mr. Thomas Hanmer of Pentre David, sonne to William Hanmer Gent., late of Lee
who dyed the 24th of July
in the year of our Lord God 1666."

A small stone tablet bears the date 1679, between three nails, and a heart; but whom it commemorates is not known.

"In memory of the late
Rev. Thomas Edwards of Mount Sion in this parish
Rector of Llanfechan in the County of Montgomery
he died the 5th of January 1800
aged 75 years.
Also of Jane his wife daughter of the Rev[d] R. Maurice of
Bryn y Gwalie. She died the 27th of December 1814,
aged 80."

"To the Memory of Mr. John Owen, Penrhos,
In this parish Gentleman, who died May 9th 1807
aged 49."

"Sacred to the Memory of
The Reverend George Newton Kynaston Lloyd, M.A.
youngest son of the Reverend John Robert Lloyd LL.B. of
Aston in this County. He was thirty five years Rector of
Selattyn, and faithfully preached Christ crucified, proclaimed
the glad tidings of salvation and as a lowly follower of his
Saviour adorned the doctrine of the Gospel,
Born August 23rd 1786. Died January 17th, 1846.
Aged 59."

"Sacred to the memory of Owen Arthur Ormsby Gore, youngest son of William Ormsby Gore, M.P., and Mary Jane Ormsby his wife. Who was killed in action in Kaffirland April vi. MD.C.C.C.LII. aged xxxi.

Extract from Lieut.-Gen. Sir Henry Smith's despatch.

I deeply regret the loss of Capt. Gore of the 43rd Light Infantry. He was one of the most distinguished Captains under my command, as Intrepid as Judicious, beloved by Officers and men."

"In Memory of Charlotte Husband, wife of the Rector of this parish, daughter of Edward Jones, Esq., of Wepre Hall, in the County of Flint, who died 31 July, 1857, and of Mary Husband his sister, who died 23rd July, 1860."

"Sacred to the Memory of Thomas John Nicholas, M.A., late fellow of St. John's College, Cambridge, who died 2nd of December, 1866, aged 28 years."

There is also a brass

"In memory of William Ormsby Gore Esq[r] [1] born at Bath March 14th A.D. 1779, died at Porkington May 4th A.D. 1860,

[1] The window representing the four Evangelists in the South Chapel of Oswestry Parish Church was placed to their memory by their eldest son, John Ralph Lord Harlech.

son of William Gore of Barrowmount and of his wife Frances Lady Morres, and of Mary Jane[1] [see note page 94] his wife born Sept 17, A.D. 1781, died at Porkington Sept 10th, A.D. 1869, daughter of Owen Ormsby Esq of Willowbrook and of his wife Margaret Owen heiress of Porkington, Glyn, Clenenney, Landyn and Willowbrook.

He represented the County of Leitrim in Parliament 1806, the Carnarvon boroughs 1830 and North Shropshire from 1835 till 1857, and was a great public benefactor to the County by promoting the formation of railways.

They both lie in a vault underneath the south transept of this Church."

The upper portion of this inscription is divided by an engraved Cross, below which is a shield. *1 and 4, Gore. 2 and 3, Ormsby, with a rose for difference.* On an escutcheon of pretence. *1, Ormsby. 2, Chessrooks (an augmentation granted to Ormsby). 3, Owen. 4, Maurice.* Underneath the shield is the Gore motto "*In hoc signo vinces.*"

The tower, which formerly had only a doorway into the Church, has been opened to the nave by an arch and the font placed in it, being lighted by a new window inserted over the built-up west doorway.

The oak lectern was given as a memorial to Emily Lady Harlech by her five children.

The old oak Altar table was enlarged, and a new Credence table and Litany desk were placed in the Church.

The nave and aisle are seated with open oak benches, and the Church is heated with hot air.

Externally, all the stonework has been carefully repaired, the blue slates of the roof replaced by red tiles, and the ground lowered all round the church.

The tower contains three bells; the largest has been roughly repaired in modern times, and bears this inscription:—

The sceptre now Victoria sways
Fair Queen of Britain's isle,
May Heaven grant her length of days
With peace and joy the while.
1851.

Its shape is that of an early bell, and it is probably one of the two that swung in the "stepull," which was spared in the days of Edward VI.

The second bell is inscribed "A. B. Rudhall, Founder 1758." The third bell bears "A Rudhall, Prosperity to this Parish, 1758."

This last inscription savours somewhat of a toast at a public dinner.

Abraham Rudhall was a well-known bellfounder of Gloucester.

There is but one entry in the Vestry Book concerning the bell—"1779. Paid to the bell as appears in the Church Book, 13s. 4½d." Whether this is a paymentfor ringing or for the repair of one of the bells we cannot tell.

Until a few years ago it was invariably the custom, as in so many Welsh parishes, to toll one bell for the funeral, and immediately afterwards to ring a peal. The writer of this history has often heard it rung.

It has a beautiful signification—the joyful entry of the soul into Paradise.

During the course of the late alterations in the Church considerable traces of wall painting were found on the south side of the nave, both on the wall spaces and on the jambs of the south and east windows.

The rough surface of the 15th century walls had received a thin coating of whitewash, and on that large figure subjects had been painted in red and yellow ochre. Between two of the windows a yellow bench could be detected, on which were seated two figures in brown robes, but neither here nor elsewhere could sufficient be uncovered to arrive at any conclusion as to the subjects.

The 15th century painting had apparently been rudely treated at the reformation in order to give hold to a further and thicker deposit of plaster. Upon this second layer were painted, probably temp. Elizabeth, letter texts with borders, portions of which came to light during the alterations.[1]

[1] I am indebted for the above description of the Church Restoration to the architect, C. Hodgson Fowler, Esq., F.S.A., and for notes on the Church Tower and Wall-painting to the Rev. J. C. Cox, LL.D., F.S.A

The old Churchyard contains some fine yew trees, taking one's thoughts back to mediæval times, when they were ordered to be planted in country Churchyards to provide bows and arrows.

In 1728 "the Lime walks in the Churchyard were planted the 5th and 6th March," and the Register further tells us that the "Trees were given by the Hon[d] William Owen, Esq., of Porkington." They have all disappeared, unmindful of the law that forbids the parson to "cut down trees growing in the Churchyard, except for the necessary repairs of the Chancel, because they are planted and grow there for the ornament and shelter of the Church."[1]

The oldest gravestone in the Churchyard is that of "John Phillipes, who died Marc 19 Ano Dom. 1620."

There is a large altar tomb of the kind usual at the beginning of the present century, marked "Mount Sion."

Two stone slabs with recumbent crosses mark the resting place of two Rectors and their wives.

"George Newton Kynaston Lloyd, M.A., Rector of this parish, born August 23rd, 1786; died January 17, 1846.

Also in memory of Anne Lloyd, wife of the above, born January 1st, M.D.C.C.XCIX. Died Nov. 22, 1886."

"Beneath lie the remains of Charlotte Husband, the beloved wife of the Rector of this parish, who died 31st July, 1857, aged 67.

Also of the Rev. John Husband, Rector of this parish, who died January 30th, 1869, aged 80.

Here lie the remains of Mary Husband, who died 23 July, 1860, aged 69."

An upright cross of white Sicilian marble is in memory of "Rowland Jones Venables of Oakhurst, born 14 Sept., 1812; died 15th May, 1868."

A stone marks the grave of a former parish Clerk, his wife and son.

"In memory of Thomas Nicholas, born Feb., 1794, died April, 1879.

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[1] *Church Dict.*, Dr. Hook, edit. 1843, p. 167.

Also of Sarah his wife, born Oct. 27th, 1803, died January 6th, 1888.

In memory of Thomas John Nicholas, M.A., late fellow of St. John's College, Cambridge, died 2nd Dec., 1866, aged 28."

A stone cross commemorates the grave of the first schoolmistress at Pantglas and her husband.

"Edward Rogers fell asleep April 20th, 1868, aged 74, also Susannah, wife of the above, who died June 27th, 1874, aged 82."

There are other gravestones too numerous to be recorded, some of which are much worn by the hands of time.

Hundreds were buried there, who lie uncommemorated—

"The silent stars are overhead,
The silent graves below:
A dream between—how quickly fled!—
Is all we know."

The sundial gives us the name of its maker, "Wm. Jared fecit 1759."

A lychgate was put up in 1892 by the parishioners and friends, in memory of Emily Lady Harlech, to whom also the new clock in the Church Tower is a memorial.

A piece of ground was given for a new Churchyard by William Lord Harlech, in 1886. The date of the conveyance of the land from him to the Churchwardens, Messrs. Vaughan and Morgan, is June 16th of that year.

A large white marble recumbent Cross marks the grave of his wife; it rests upon a marble coping which bears the following inscription:—"In memory of Emily Charlotte, wife of William Richard second Baron Harlech, daughter of Sir George F. Seymour, G.C.B., G.C.H., born Aug. 19, 1824, died Jan. 10th, 1892." "Looking for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ unto eternal life."

This new Graveyard is divided from the old one by a stone wall.

EXTRACTS FROM A FIFTEENTH CENTURY MS.

Transcribed by E. CALVERT.

The following transcripts have been made from a volume now in the Shrewsbury School Library. It is a small quarto (8½ by 6 in.) strongly, if rudely, sewn into a limp cover of vellum, of which the top and side edges have been turned over and stitched down at the corners of one flap, while of the other about half has been cleanly cut off. The cover has been part of an older MS. of church music written on a staff of four (red) lines, the words (from the Psalter) having been beautifully written in black letter with illuminated capitals.

The contents are made up of eight fascicles. No. 1 appears to have consisted of 24 leaves, of which the first three are much worn and mutilated. It is a copy of a part of "the Prick of Conscience," "Stimulus Conscientiæ," a poem written by Richard Rolle, the Hermit of Hampole, born at Thornton in Yorkshire, about 1290, died 1349. (See Prof. Henry Morley's *English Writers*, vol. iv., pp. 263-269).

The portion contained in this fascicle was probably somewhat less than the latter half of the poem, which runs to the length of 9,624 lines. The subject was divided by the poet into seven parts, of which we have here the 5th, "of Domesday," the 6th, "of the Pains of Hell," and a few of the opening lines of the 7th and last, "of the Joys of Heaven."

The whole poem was edited by Dr. R. Morris for the Philological Society in 1863.

On a leaf at the end of the poem are written some rough memoranda of arrears of tithe, e.g.

Charls Hill xij quarter oots xv^{s} to be peyd at Marttelmas nex commyng.

It. Raff Wyttworth y^{e} holder xiiij stryke of oots xiiij^{s} to be payd at Mychelmas nex commyng a peke of wett xij^{d} half a peke of ootmell xj^{d}ob.

It. xiiij borddnes [*burdens ? loades*] of hay xiiij^{d}, xiiij thraff of stray xiiij^{d}.

It. John Newton wyff a hep malt with other mor wet and malt.

It. Robert Bott wyff half a peke mell and half a peke of salt.

It. Jamys Newton xiiij^{d}.

Nos. 2 and 3 are of 16 leaves each, and consist mainly of sermons, but include the creed and bidding prayer given below. On the last outside page appear instructions as follows :—

(1) a drynke a gense y^{e} Seknes of y^{e} plage.

take a handfull of sauge of vertue and a handfull of herbe grace an handfull of elder leves a handfull of brambyl leves and stampe yam [*them*] in a brasyn morter and yen [*then*] streyn yam thoro a far clene clothe with a quart of whyte wyne and yen [*then*] put yerto [*thereto*] a gud quantite of whyte gynger and yen drynke every day a sponfull ix days togeddr and after ye fyrst sponfull ye schall be suwer xxiiij howrs and after ye ix days ye schall be suer for ye holl yer [*year*] be grace of god.

(2) remedy for ye seknes if you have not dronkkyn ye drynke.

If it forton if y^{t} any be strekyn with ye sekness then take a handfull of water scabeos a sponfull of water of betyne a sponfull of fin triakyll [*treacle*] of gynne [*Guinea*] and gyff it to ye pacient and that schall causse all the vennym to go out and if it fortune y^{t} ye boghl [*boil*] com out yen take elder leves brambyl leves and musterd sede and stampe yam all togeddr and make a plaster of and lay it to ye boghl and it schall bryng out all ye venim and ye persone schall be holl by ye grace of god.

Nos. 4, 5, 6 contain sermons on 12, 16, and 7 leaves. No. 6, however, is of smaller sized page than the rest, being only $7\frac{3}{4}$ in. by $5\frac{1}{4}$. It differs also from the rest in the handwriting and colour of the ink, and must be

short of a leaf at the beginning, which contained the text and opening sentences of the sermon.

No. 7 has 16 leaves, 14 of which contain a "collation" on the words "Revertar in domum meam," Luc. xi. 24, and are followed by a much shorter address on the same text. This portion of the sermons is very carefully written. The character is very uniform and might be described as Court hand.

No. 8 appears to have had certainly not less than 10 leaves. Many are so torn that scarcely half the contents can be deciphered. The handwriting seems to be the same as that of the main body of the sermons.

The creed and bidding prayer are preceded by a treatise thus introduced:—

Her folowes a fruitfull and a compendius treytys specyally schewing wat meryte of pardon it is to hear a messe, and in specyall to see our Lord Jhu Cryst in forme of breyd: Geydyrd and drawne by dyvers holy doctors of the Kyrke.

At the end of this treatise appears the only date occurring in the collection. It is thus written:—mcccclxxxiiij, and may be accepted as genuine. The metrical version of the Creed follows next. The ascription of the several articles to the apostles is borne out by Dr. A. Harnack in the pamphlet translated by Mrs. Humphry Ward for the *Nineteenth Century* of July, 1893, but it will be seen that St. Thomas is not included, and that the words "dead and buried; He descended into hell" are not mentioned. "Mortuus est et sepultus" were, in fact, ascribed to St. John, and the descent and resurrection to St. Thomas. This omission can only have been accidental.

The marginal rimes appear to be a kind of meditation consisting of short and somewhat desultory ejaculations.

In "The Lay Folks' Mass Book," according to the use of York (Early Eng. Text Society), edited by Canon T. P. Simmonds, a bidding prayer occurs similar, and in some passages identical with that given below, though scarcely half as long.

A very determined attempt has been made in the MS. to erase the line referring to the Pope and the Cardinals, but sufficient traces have been left to enable the original words to be restored with certainty.

The allusions to St. Chad of Lichfield and St. Mary of Coventry would seem to limit the use of the prayer to this diocese.

The spelling of the original is reproduced throughout, as well as the use of the character *y* for *th*.

METRICAL CREED.

Scriptura dicit Et qui bona egerunt ibunt in vitam eternam qui vero mala in ignem eternum. Item alia via secundum ap'los [*apostolos*].

Peter.	Credo peter began to saye I believe in god veraye	y^{t} made bothe day & nygt
	In deum that is god on hye patrem omnipotentem to y^{e} we cry	fad^{r} full of myght
	Creatorem y^{ou} formyst all thyng and was y'selffe w^{t}oute any begynnyng	y^{ou} sees all y'ing in syzt
	Celi et terre and all y'ing y^{ou} wrought heyven and erthe and all y'ing of nogt	Bothe soune and mone and steres brygt
Andreas.	Et in Jhm Chr^{m} sayde Andrewe And in y^{e} fad^{r} almygty Jhu	Blessyd mot y^{ou} be
	filium ejus unicum y^{e} son and ye fad^{r} toged^{r} y'ay wone	and all in ye trinite
	ye whyche y^{ou} dyst us brynge fro thens as we wer prasyng	owt of many diverse cuntre
	dominum nostrum Lorde over all unto y^{r} mod^{r} y^{ou} dyst us call	In solempnyte y^{t} syzt for to se
Jacobus maior	qui conceptus sayd James y^{e} mor ye wyche was consayved of ih'u byfor	as prophetts byfor can spell
	est de spiritu lord full of myght the holy gost in mary lyght	and take bothe fleysche and fell

	? Sancto natus y^{us} sothe to say ye holy byrthe on crystymas day	thow by [*buy*] us all fro hell
	ex maria virgine By y^{e} virgine mary we wer made fre	In endles blys to dwell
Joh'es Evangelista.	Passus sub poncio seyd John y^{e} Evangelyst ye passyon of ih'u Cryst	Stode and it beheld
	Pylato crucifyxus ye erth can qwake When ihu was crucyfyed byfor Pylat	on Calvery in y^{t} felde
	ye sonne y^{e} mone laft y^{t} syght dedemen rose throghe hys myzt	suche syzt's men se bot seld [*but seldom*]
	Tercia die y^{e} sothe to say Ryght evyn uppon y^{e} thyrd day	truly as I you tell
	Resurrexit a mortuis Fro dethe to lyve hys body rose	hys lawes to fulfyll
Jacobus Minor	Ascendit ad celos seyde Jamys the lesse to heyven he styed yroghe hys grace	On holy Thrusday
	Sedet ad dexteram Lorde full of myght and on his fad^{r} ryght hand he sytts full ryght	y^{t} all wyrshep may *(doubtful, much worn away).*
	Dei patris owr fad^{r} on hye y^{t} owr believe can magnifye	y^{ou} set us in a seker way
	Omnipotentis almyghty Kynge y^{u} schope y^{is} worlde and all thyng	to be plesyng unto y^{r} paye
Philip	Inde venturus seyd Phelyp y^{is} is to drede at domesday his Wordes indede	men schall se in syght
	Est judicare when y^{ou} shall deme as we have sued y^{e} to queme	But y^{t} mercy pass y^{t} Ryght
	vivos et mortuos y^{re} is no nay qwycke and ded may dred y^{t} day	When we shall see it in syght
	then we schall ryse both flessch and bone and lord dem us never to payne	But bryng us to y^{t} blys so bryght

Barth. then sayd bartylmew myld steyvyn
Credo in Spiritum lord of heyvyn } In the Holy Gost I beleve

Sanctum sanctorum holyest of all fad^{r} and sonne in specyall } y ^{u} schope both Adame and Eve.

Matheus Ecclesiam catholicam sayd Matthewe
And in teyching of Holy Chyrche I trowe } schall turne my Sowll fro greff

Sanctorum communionem y^{is} is my trest
Amonge all gud saynts for to rest } and men fro yayme to meve

Symon Remissionem peccatorum sayd Symon
And in remyssyon of synnes I believe uppon } savyd schall I be

Tadeus. Carnis resurrectionem said Tadeus
Owre flesche shall ryse byfor I'hus } icheman in is degre

Mathias. Et vitam eternam Mathy can say
Unto the lyfe y^{t} lastes ay } Returned shall be

Unto that blys y^{ou} us bryng fad^{r} and heyven kyng } Thre persons in trinite

(Last line nearly gone).

BIDDING PRAYER.

Deprecemur deum patrem omnipotentem pro fide et stabilitate sancte matris ecclesie: ye schall make yowr specyall prayers to almyghty god, and to our lady seynt mary, and to all the holy court of heyvyn, for ye state and welefar of al holy kyrke, fro ye hyest degre unto ye lowyst, and specyally for our holy fadyr ye pope of Rome with all hys trewe college of cardinalls.

for ye patryarke of Jerusalem, for ye holy crosse y^{t} Cryst suffyrd his passyon uppon y^{t} is in ye heythyn mens handys, y^{t} god for hys mercy bryng it owte of y^{r} handys into Cristyn men's kepyng, ye tytter and ye bettyr, for our gud prayers at y^{is} tym. Ye shall pray also specyally for all archyepyskopes and byschoppes, abbotys, pryours, and all men and women of relygyon, y^{t} god of hys gudness kepe yayme long yerein: Ye schall pray also specyally for ye archebyschopo of y^{is} diocysys,

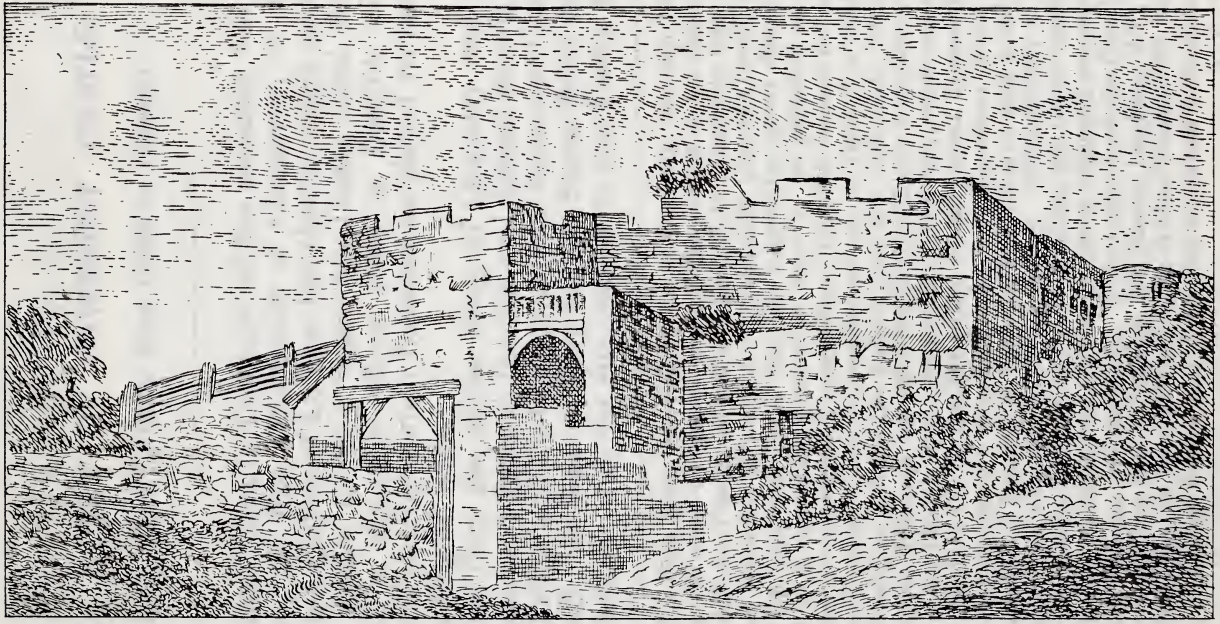
and for ye patrons of y^{is} kyrke, and for ye persone of y^{is} kyrke, for all oy^{r} persons and vycars and parysche prests yt onr *(sic)* and charge halle takyn of Cristtyn mynes sowles, y^{t} god of his mercy gyffe thayme grace so for to enforme thayme, and yay for to wyrke thereaftyr, y^{t} it may be pleysyng to god, salvaco'n to ye sowles of bothe partyse. Ye schall pray also specyally for all prestys and clarkes y^{t} redys or synges in y^{is} holy place or in any odyr and all y^{r} mayntenyrs.

Of ye second party ye schall pray specyally for our soverayne lorde the kyng of y^{is} reyme, and ye quene for all oy^{r} lordes and states of y^{e} reyme, as dukes, Erlls, baronys, knyghtys, and sqwyars, and specyally for thoso lordes y^{t} hafe ye cownseylls of y^{is} reyme in governance, that god for hys mercy gaff yayme grace such counseyll for to take, and so for to wyrke thereaftyr, y^{t} it may be pleysing to god, salvac'on to y^{r} sowles, profytt and welfar unto y^{is} reyme, discomfetyng and overcomyng of ourc enmys both bodely and gostly. Ye schall pray specyally for all ye comonty of y^{is} reyme of Ingland, and of all trew Crystyn reymys, and specyally for ye comonty of y^{is} parysche, y^{t} ar her geydyrd at y^{is} time, for to her ye dyvyn seruyce, lyke as thay ar bound by y^{e} lawe; for all those y^{t} are absent by any resnabyll excuse, and wold be her and yay myght growe to y^{r} perposse, and for all those that ar absent withowt any resnabyll excuse or mysgovernaunce, y^{t} yay may hafe grace for to amend yaym tyttor and bettyr throght our prayers at y^{is} tym. Ye shall pray also specyally for ye peese and tranquilety of y^{is} reyme, and of all trewe crystyn reymys; ye schall pray also specyally for all trew pylgrymes and palmers, y^{t} any gud gates hafe gone, or schall go, y^{t} god graunt us part of y^{r} gud ways, and yayme part of our prayers. And for all seefarand, y^{t} God saffe yaym, and kepe yaym, and brynge yayme saffe and sownde and y^{r} guddes $whery^{t}$ they had levyst for to be. Ye schall pray specyally for all trew tylmen y^{t} truly labour and travells in ye worlde, end by y^{r} bodely labor upholdys both spiritual and temporall, accordyng to Goddys wyll and ye lawe of y^{is} land. Ye schall pray also specyally for all thayme that mendys brygges, cawsys, or wayes, y^{t} ye pepyll may passe withowte any hurt or paryschynge. Ye schall pray specyally for all ye fruttys of ye erthe, y^{t} God of his mercy sett suche temperans in ye weddyr, y^{t} ye fruttys may encreyse and multiplye and be geydyrd to Crystyn mens sustentac'on. Ye schall pray also specyally for all those gud men and wemen y^{t} dewly and trwly pays y^{r} tythes, y^{r} offerans, thayr dewtys to god and to holy kyrke, lyke as yay ar bound by ye law; and yay y^{t} do not so, y^{t} yay may have grace to a mende thayme,

ye tyttor and bettyr, for our gud prayers at y^{is} tyme. Ye schall pray also specyally for all those y^t ar seke or sory in y^{is} parysche, or in any othyr, and specyally for all women y^t gose bound with chylde y^t god in his mercy delyver thayme with gud and releyse theym of y^r paynes in tyme of traveling, and send the chylde crystyndom and *(some words irrecoverable)* purificacon of h *(the rest gone)*.

Ye shall pray also specyally for all those y^t ar of gud leffynge in y^{is} parysche, or in any oy^r, y^t God of is gudnes kepe thayme longe therein; and those y^t ar bound in det or in deydly synne, y^t yay may hafe grace to amend thayme ye tyttor and bettyr, for our gud prayers at y^{is} tyme. Ye schall pray also for all ye bredyr and ye systorys and ye gud dowers of Sent Chade of lichfield, and Seynt Mary hows of Co'ntre and specyally for all ye bredyr and ye systores yt ar in any gyldes y^t longys to y^{is} parysche. Ye shall pray also specyally for all those good men and women y^t gyffes or by(q)wytys any manner of guddys unto thys kyrke, as bokes, bollys, cloys, lawmppes, lyght, awtor clothe, or towell, or any maner of a nowr menttys [*ornaments*], wherthroght ye servyce of Allmyghty God hase bene bettyr maynteynyd a for tyme, or is zut [*yet*] at thys day, y^t God for y^r gud dede Rewarde thaym in joy and blys of heyvyn. Ye schall pray also specyally for y^e gud man and ye gud women y^t y^{is} day sent breyd unto y^{is} awter, wherof holy breyde shall be made, and for yay y^t y^e fyrst began and ye longyst holdys on.

On ye thyrde party, ye schall pray specially for the prisoners of e Almyghty God, y^t is for to say, yowr fadyr sowle, yowr mody: r sowle, yowr god fad^r sowles, your godmodyr sowles, yowr . brodyr sowles, yowr systor sowles, your oyne so' wles. yowr awnt sowles, and for all yowr kynne sowles, and specially for all ye sowles y^t ye have had any maner of guddes of, wer throghe ye or any of yowrs hafe faryn bettyr for, or zut dose at y^{is} day. Ye shall pray specyally for all y^{ose} sowles y^t ar in ye byttyr paynes of purgatory, abydyng ye mercy of our lorde; and specyally for those sowles yt most nede haffe, and fewyst frendys hafe her leffte uppon erthe, for to do oght for y^{ame}. Ye shall pray specyally for all those sowles whose bodys or bonys are beyryd in yis kyrke or yis kyrke yeyrde, or any odr holy place. Ye schall pray also specyally for all those sowles y^e whyche y^t I haffe had any maner of gudes off, for to pray for thayme, and specyally for ye sowle of R.L.



ADNITT & NAUNTON, LITHS SALOP

OSWESTRY CASTLE.

THE STORY OF OSWESTRY CASTLE.

By J. PARRY-JONES, Town Clerk of Oswestry.

We cannot boast in Oswestry of the romantic site of Conway, the fine architecture of Carnarvon, or the poetic associations of Ludlow, but the few rough stones which remain to show where our Castle stood form part of a structure whose story is fraught with memories of a time when Oswestrians played no mean part in English history.

Scenes from the earlier story of Oswestry and its neighbourhood figure in the dim and distant records of King Arthur and his Court, centuries before our Castle was built; the heathen King and the Saxon Saint were alike familiar with its site, and as to the Castle, the

NOTE.—This paper was read by me at Oswestry, January, 1893, as one of the series of lectures given at the request of the Oswestry Science and Art Classes and Offa Field Club in connection with the Technical Education Scheme of the Shropshire County Council, and it was then suggested to me that the information given should be retained in a permanent form as a paper to be published in the Shropshire Archæological *Transactions*. This will account for some of the local allusions and the popular manner in which it is written. I should add, as I did at the lecture, that it is difficult to estimate the assistance I derived from Mr. Stanley Leighton's admirable compilation of the Records of the Corporation of Oswestry, which appeared in Vols. II., III., IV. of the Shropshire Archæological *Transactions*. I must also express my deep indebtedness to *Bye-Gones*, which has been invaluable in bringing to light and preserving so large a body of information with reference to Border history. Since delivery of the lecture I have been able to verify the quotations and to add considerably to the information given after inspection of original documents in the British Museum and elsewhere. I must also thank the Hon. Mrs. Bulkeley-Owen, the Earl of Denbigh, Mr. Stanley Leighton, M.P., Mr. R. Lloyd Kenyon, Mr. Edward Woodall, Mr. Arthur Minshall, Mr. David Roberts, and others for the loan of valuable books and documents.

J. P. J.

Norman Chivalry under William the Conqueror and the Puritan Ironsides under Oliver Cromwell all knew Oswestry Castle, and associations with its story gather round the dramas of Shakespeare and the *Idylls* of Tennyson.

And first as to its site. Leland, who visited Oswestry in the time of Henry VIII., says:[1]—"There is a Castelle sette on a Mont be likelihod made by hand and diched by South West betwixt Beterice Gate and Williho Gate to the wich the Toun Waul cummith." Pennant, in his history of Oswestry, no doubt deriving the suggestion from Leland, speaks of the "artificial mount" upon which the Castle is built, and gives this as a proof that it dates earlier than the Norman period, and says "the Britons and the Saxons gave their fortresses this species of elevation, while the Normans built on the firm and natural soil or rock." The recent excavations, however, showed almost conclusively that (while it is probable the site has been covered with the rubbish of ages), notwithstanding the statement of Mr. G. T. Clark, hereafter referred to, the mound itself is natural and not artificial, and that the highest available ground in the Borderland was chosen immediately fronting Wales, up to which the fertile plain of Shropshire gradually slopes. Mr. Clark, writing in *Arch. Camb.*, 4th Ser., vol. ix., page 185, says:—"The Castle mound, though standing on high ground, is wholly artificial and rather oval at its summit, which is about 60 feet by 100 feet. It is about 30 feet high, and perhaps 200 feet diameter. On its table top are some fragments of masonry composed of large rolled boulders laid in a thick bed of mortar, very rude, but very strong work. One fragment, which in places is about 8 feet thick, is 9 or 10 feet high, and near it are two other large masses, one of which at least is overthrown. The keep was of the shell type, and probably polygonal. There seems to be a further trace of masonry at the south-west side. The

[1] S. A. *Trans.*, Vol. IV., p. 142.

entrance was probably on the south-west side. It is probable that the masonry remaining is the work of William Fitzalan in 1155." The site has, no doubt, been much contracted as the town has increased, especially during the present century, since the Horse Market and Pitcher Bank have been carved out of it, and the "Castle Fields" have been covered with houses, over the site of what in my boyish days we used to call the "Cripple Bank." From the summit of Cyrnybwch, two miles nearer Wales, one sees what must have been the strength of the position in days before gunpowder was invented. On the one side rise in towering masses the hills of Wales, ending in the backbone of Wales, the Berwyns, penetrated by the Valleys of the Dee, the Ceiriog, and the Severn, while on the other side lies the fertile plain of Salop studded with villages, and upon the rising ground midway between stood the Castle of Oswestry. From it the incursions of the Welsh into Salop could be repelled, and shelter could be given under its walls while the villages of the plain were being ravaged by the spoilers; and if Wales were to be invaded by the route of either the Dee, the Ceiriog, or the Severn, its fortress served as a rallying ground for the English forces. So late as the Commonwealth Oswestry Castle was described as the "Key of Wales," and its possession was coveted alike by Norman warrior and Welsh patriot. The Castle must have been of considerable size to have contained so large a garrison as is afterwards mentioned, but it has been so completely destroyed that it is difficult to trace its outline. We have no plan of the Castle left, but I have here an enlarged drawing, the origin of which I have only succeeded in tracing to a sepia sketch by W. Williams (an artist of the last century, who took views of many Shropshire buildings), which is now in the possession of Mr. Adnitt of Shrewsbury; a copy of it is also preserved in the Bodleian Library, but no information can be gleaned there as to its origin. It will be seen that it represents a strong castellated structure of somewhat unimposing

aspect, with an outer gate and drawbridge. This sketch also appears in Edwards's *History of Oswestry*, and is there signed "J. Jones Dudleston Salop Sculpt Jan. 1819." "It had a tower called Madoc's Tower" (so Leland tells us), while the Bailey Head, as we now term it, formed the Ballium or Courtyard. The Barbican or outer gate, where the maimed and blind were relieved, would be situate on the site of the mound in Castle Street, cleared away about 30 years ago, and then called "The Cripple-Gate." It was probably approached by a bridge over the moat, which ran across the site of the New Municipal Buildings, as was found to our cost when the foundation was being laid last year, for it was damp with the moisture of by-gone ages and full of the bones of mediæval horses and the heel taps of Elizabethan shoes, and no explanation can be given of a singular layer or stratum of leather chippings about 20 feet in length and 6 inches deep which was found many feet below the surface.

The inventory of contents further on will give some idea of the number of rooms the Castle contained. It also contained a Chapel dedicated to St. Nicholas, the endowment of which was derived from lands whose identity it is impossible to ascertain. "Castell Croft, a croft under Wynne Wallis, a croft called 'Chykenwall,' and the field called Cadogan Field."[1]

It is difficult to give the exact date of the foundation of the Castle. There was no doubt a fortification at Old Oswestry, as it is now termed, Hen Dinas—the old fort—or anciently Caer Ogyrvan, from British times. To readers unacquainted with the locality I should add that Old Oswestry is a fine British encampment, now covered with wood, about three quarters of a mile from Oswestry, in full view of the Castle hill, and is the property of Lord Harlech. Here, legend tells us, Guinivere, King Arthur's unhappy Queen, was born, the daughter of Gogyrfan Fawr "His one fair daughter

[1] Eyton's *Ant. Salop*, vol. vii.

and she was fairest of all flesh on earth."[1] It was not until the days of William the Conqueror, however, that its neighbouring fortress, the Castle of Oswestry, makes its appearance in history. Dugdale says: "There was a Castle at Oswaldestre at the time of the Conquest," but there is no record in Domesday Book of the existence of any town upon the site of modern Oswestry. The legends as to the connection of "Oswald, Saint and King" with Oswestry belong to a period of four centuries earlier, and of these, interesting as they are, I cannot stay to speak now. They belong to the History of Oswestry as a town.

There is no doubt that a church or a religious foundation of some kind had existed in the neighbourhood from the date of Oswald's death in 637, but in *Domesday Book* the district round Oswestry is comprised in the Manor of Meseberie and Hundred of Mersite, while Oswestry does not appear by name. There is mention of a place called, "Castle L'uvre," and it is suggested by Eyton that this means "The Work," by which name the Normans styled a great military position, and it is probable that this was Oswestry Castle, but the first mention of Oswestry Castle by name, so far as I can gather, is contained in the Anglo-Norman Metrical romance, *The History of Fulk Fitz-Warine*, which was translated by Mr. Thomas Wright, and printed for the Warton Club. It tells the story of William the Conqueror's visit to the Welsh Border in 1068, two years after the Conquest. For two years the people had lain quiet, stunned under the feet of William, and it seemed as if the conquest was complete. But the quiet was treacherous. Suddenly all northern, western, and south western England rose as one man in rebellion. York was stormed, and the garrison of 3,000 Normans massacred. News reached William as he was travelling in the Forest of Dean. "In a wild outburst of wrath he swore by the splendour of God to

[1] Tennyson's *Idylls*, Guinivere.

avenge himself."[1] The Norman garrison in Shrewsbury was besieged. William marched to its relief and swept the Welsh border. The French chronicler tells that when William was on his march near the Welsh border he came to a ruined city, of which Mr. Wright says, "I am inclined to think that it may be Old Oswestry," where he hears a marvellous story of the giant Geomagog, whose uneasy spirit still ruled the city, and how Payn Peverel, the "proud and courageous knight," cousin of the King, with his "shield shining with gold, on which was a cross of azure indented," took fifteen knights with him in the midst of a tempest of thunder and lightning, and fought the fiend, who carried a great club, and was guarding a treasure of "oxen, cows, swans, peacocks, horses, and all other animals made of fine gold, and there was a golden bull which told the events which were to come." Whether the treasure still remains buried in Old Oswestry the chronicler fails to tell, but the Christian knight conquered and the chronicler proceeds :—

Ly roy s'en vet de yleque e Vent en une contre' joygnant a' la Blanche Launde qe jadys fust a' un Breterin Meredus filz Beledyns; e delees si est un chastelet q'est apelleè Arbre Oswald mes' or est apelee Osewaldestre. Ly roy apela un chevaler Aleyn fitz Flaen e ly donà le chastelet on tut l' onour qe apent; e de cely Aleyn vindrent tous les grantz Seignors d' Engletere qe orint le sournorin de Fitz Aleyn. Pus cesti Aleyn fist enlager mout le chastel,

which Mr. Wright thus translated :—

The King went thence and came to a country joining the White Laund, which belonged formerly to a Briton, Meredus son of Beledius, and beside it is a little Castle which is called the Tree of Oswald; but now it is called Oswaldestre. The King called a Knight Alan Fitz Flaen and gave him the little Castle with all the honor appertaining to it, and from this Alan came all the lords of England who have the surname of

[1] Green's *Hist. English People*, vol. i., p. 17.

Fitz Alan. Subsequently this Alan caused the Castle to be much enlarged.[1]

This is the first mention of Oswestry Castle in history, if history it be, but Eyton shows that although Alan was actually Lord of Oswestry, it was not until many years after William's death. Humphrey Llwyd, the Welsh Historian of Elizabeth's reign, in quaint language tells us what is probably the real story. "The Normans having gotten into their hands all the lands and livings of the nobilitee of England began to spie into the commodities of Wales, and seeing that Robert Fitzhaman and the other knights that went with him had sped so well they made suite to the King to graunt them the lands of the Welshmen. Whereupon the King thinking that the best waie for him, as well as to encourage them to be the more willing to serve him, as also to provide for them, graunted to divers of his nobles, sundrie Counties in Wales to hold of him by knight's service as followeth: Roger Montgomery Earl of Arundel and Salop." Earl Roger in his turn conferred the Hundred of Mersete, comprising Oswestry, upon Warin as Sheriff of Salop. An English Sheriff, it has been said, "fills an office as thankless as it is unlaborious," as "involuntary as it is irresponsible;" but the Norman Sheriff or Vicomte was a provincial Minister nobly born, highly trusted and munificently rewarded. Earl Roger richly endowed his Sheriff Warin (surnamed the Bald), and gave him his niece in marriage. He is said to have been "little in body but great in soul." He died in 1085, and his widow married Rainald, another Norman noble, but she kept her first husband in mind, for she "gave for his soul a house in Shrewsbury and covenanted that she herself living in the said house as tenant to the Abbey, she would provide candles to light the Church every night for the whole year." This Rainald

[1] Wright's Trans. *Fulk Fitzwarine*, p. 14. Mr. Eyton's Annotation in that work is—"Meredus fitz Beledyns. Meredith ap Blethyn, the person alluded to, was a contemporary of William, and Prince of North Wales. He died in 1133."

is the Rainald mentioned in *Domesday Book*, and probably he added to the Castle then in existence.

His successor was the Alan Fitz Flaad I have mentioned, whose connection with his predecessor is obscure. Probably Alan had fled from Scotland to England, and tradition traces him to the Court of Macbeth. He was therefore the first of the great Fitzalan family, who for years were Lords of Oswestry.[1] John Davies, Recorder of Oswestry, in his *History*, dated 1635, preserved in the British Museum (to which I shall several times have to allude)[2] explains clearly the rights and privileges of the Fitzalans on the Welsh Border. They were Lords Marchers, and to them in common with other Norman nobles was given jurisdiction in the Marches adjoining Wales, on condition that they kept the Welsh in order and prevented incursions into England. The Marches were a sort of no man's land, neither belonging to England nor Wales, and their unhappy inhabitants often shared the fate of the Pitcher in the fable. Davies says :—

The Fitz-Alans hadd Jura Regalia and Royall Jurisdiction, Royall Seigniores under favor of service and Escheats as the King hadd. And in most parts Royal Jurisdec'on and the privelegis of Earles Palatine for they hadd their owne Officers and Courts of Justice where the Kings writtes and Officers hadd no authority, but in matters of treason onlly; otherwise all murders, felonies ac'ions reall and p'sonall and all other ac'ions whatsoever were heard and determined in their Courts. They hadd their private lawes they graunted p'dons even of murder, and of all kinds of felonies, they graunted priveleges, Infranchised and Incorporated their Towns. They hadd Constables of their Castles. They hadd their Exchequers, their Treasurers, Receavers and Auditors. They hadd Custodes portarum, keepers of their gates in their walled tounes. They hadd sometimes noble men and att all other times eminent knights and Esquires of the best quality to be their Stewards. They signed and putt their names before and above their ch'res and grauntes. They hadd their greate Seales. Their

[1] Eyton's *Ant.*, vol. x., p. 320.

[2] Harl. MS. 1,981; *Bye-Gones* Nov. 10, 1886; *Powys Fadog* vol. vi.

stiles ranne in the plural number. [1] "Nos. et de gr'a n'ra speciali.' Their seigniories were named and stiled honor's in w'ch they were great p'inces much like as if they hadd bine Kings. Solo Diademate Dispar."

In fact, for all practical purposes, the Lords had exclusive jurisdiction within the lands granted to them.

The estates of the Fitzalans were enormous and comprised a large portion of the County of Salop. There is no doubt that the rule by the "Lords Marchers" had its unfavourable side. Often mimic war was waged between themselves, and it has been said "paramount in their Castles with hosts of armed retainers and backed by the influence of the Court of England they were in their dealings with the Welsh unscrupulous and domineering, illtreating the inhabitants, confiscating their property and ignoring their rights." "As regarded its garrison in time of war Oswestry was far better provided than any other Castle in Shropshire. The fief of Fitz Alan, technically known as the Barony of Blancminster, was enormous, and nearly every tenant therein owed some quota of service to Oswestry Castle."[2] Whittington, for instance, was held subject to the service of one Esquire with a barbed horse at Oswestry for 40 days, and Berwick was held in 1255 by service of a horseman and a haubeck, helmet and lance at Oswestry Castle for 40 days in time of war.[3]

William the Conqueror passed away, and his son William Rufus also, and then rose the troublous wars between King Stephen and the Empress Maud, and from one end to the other England was desolated. One of the old annals tells us, "They filled the land with Castles, they greatly oppressed the

[1] "3 E, 4 Gray Lord Powis Sene'l ibim 7 E, 4 The Lord Maltravers 15 E, 4 John Dudley W. Arundel Miles Lord Maltravers 1 Hen. VII. 7 S'r W. Stanley afterwards Lord Chamberlayne, and 18 Hen. VII. S'r Gilbert Talbott were Senescalls here as app'th by the Court Rolls b'm." This is Davies's marginal note.

[2] S. A. *Trans.*, Vol. X., p. 2,

[3] S. A. *Trans.*, Vol. I. N. S., p. 198.

wretched people by making them work at these castles, and when they were finished they filled them with devils and armed men, while many thousands of the common people starved with hunger." No less than thirty-four Castles were built or enlarged in Shropshire and on the Welsh border about this time, of which Oswestry was one.[1] When civil war was raging there was no time to guard the Welsh frontier, and the border land was held by a very uncertain tenure, and Oswestry appears to have fallen into the hands of the Welsh princes, ever ready to take advantage of the troubles of their neighbours. Llwyd tells us, "Towards the end of the year 1148, Madoc the son of Meredith ap Blethyn, did build the Castell of Oswestry." And John Davies says:—"Maddock ap Meredith, Prince of Lower Powis, did build the Castle of Oswestrie called Twr Maddock An'o d'ni 1149, about the 4th yeere of the Reyne of Kinge Stephen of England, Owen Gwyneth being the Prince of North Wales."[2] Madoc is well known as the "friend of the King of England." He died in 1160, and left Brogyntyn, close to Oswestry, to his illegitimate son, Owen Brogyntyn. His tenure of the Castle must have been but slight, however, for William Fitzalan, son of Alan Fitz Flaad, without doubt, became Lord of Oswestry and Sheriff of Shropshire, and the Charter is still in existence by which he endowed the Abbey of Shrewsbury with the Church of St. Oswald and the Chapel of St Martins.[3] [4]

William Fitz Alan's brother Walter left Oswestry during the reverses of the Empress Maud, and took refuge in Scotland at the Court of her relative David I., King of Scotland. The original connection of his father with Scotland made it natural that he should do so.

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[1] Eyton's *Ant.*, vols. vii. and x.

[2] *Hist. of Os.*, Harl. MS. 1,981.

[3] Eyton's *Ant.*, vol. x., 320-322.

[4] Mr. Eyton's Annotation in *Fulk Fitzwarine* is—"Maelor, son of Meredith ap Blethyn, seems to have been possessed of Oswestry during the exile of William fitz Alan in Stephen's time," p. 188.

There he found favour and became Steward or Seneschal to the King, and was known as "Walter the Steward." Sir Walter Scott in *The Monastery* tells us that Walter's father "obtained from William the Conqueror the Castle of Oswestry in Shropshire," and points out that "Walter the Steward" became the ancestor of the Royal House of "Stewart," called from his name, and through them of our own Royal Family. It is singular to note that when the Castle Bank was being planted about 40 years ago a silver coin was found of the reign of David I., the protector of Walter Fitzalan, in whose hands one may conjecture it might have been. Oswestry Castle therefore has an association of which no other in England can boast, for here our Queen derives her ancestry. On William Fitzalan's death and during the minority of his son, Guy le Strange, the then Sheriff of Shropshire, was appointed custodian of his estate,[1] and the Record Office contains elaborate accounts of the income and expenditure, from which we get a fair idea of the importance of the Castle. Its garrison, we are told in 1165, consisted of 200 soldiers, who cost £5 3s. 9d., while one knight, two porters, and two watchmen constantly resident cost £18 5s. per annum for their maintenance, or 1s. per day between them—a somewhat small allowance one imagines, which would not provide many luxuries. A well sunk under the Castle cost £5 8s, the Castle Palisades 40s., and stores of war £6. We are told that in consequence of the war with Wales the expenses at Oswestry "were enormous, far exceeding the proportion paid at Castles within the border."

In 1165 a determined attempt was made by Henry II. to conquer Wales, and he made Oswestry his headquarters. Llwyd tells us that "he gathered an armie through all his domains in England, Normandie, Aniow, Gascoine, and Guienne, sending for succours from Flanders and Brytaine utterlie to destroie all that had

[1] Eyton's *Ant.*, vol. iii., p. 122.

life in the land and coming to Croes Oswalt called Oswaldestre incamped there." One can imagine the motley host headed by the King "with his square stout form, fiery face, prominent piercing eyes—a rough passionate busy man,"[1] surveying the Welsh hills from the Castle walls, while crowded round were the tents of the chivalry of France and the Netherlands. It is curious to note that in the construction of the Liverpool Filter Beds at Llanforda, close to the town and within what was probably the Castle Park, a silver penny of the time of Henry II. was found, which may easily have been lost by some soldier at the Camp. That must have been a brilliant scene in Oswestry seven centuries ago on the morning when Henry marched from the town up the road leading past Oakhurst towards Glyn Ceiriog, and there in the narrow Ceiriog Valley, crossed by Offa's Dyke, encountered the Welsh mountaineers, who were ready for the fray. Llwyd graphically describes the battle and the defeat of Henry's army by the Welsh. Tradition says that the English soldiers who were left on the battle field were buried in the entrenchments near Offa's Dyke, in a place still called "The Place of Graves." Ten years afterwards William's heir, William Fitzalan II., came of age, and succeeded his father at Oswestry. Great events were stirring in the world outside, the crusades had ended in disaster, Saladin had reconquered the Holy City, and passionate appeals were being made throughout all Christendom to Christian soldiers to join another crusade to expel the Moslems from Palestine and win Jerusalem to the Cross once more, and Henry II. determined that an English contingent should join in the crusade; the "Saladin Tithe," a tax levied on all goods and chattels, and memorable as the first instance of taxation in England on personal property, was granted to the King in aid of the crusade. Sir Walter Scott begins his novel of "The Betrothed" by describing how "there

[1] Green's *His. Eng. People*, p. 161.

was a truce between the Welsh and the Lords Marchers who inhabited the frontier Welsh Castles. This was the time when Baldwin, Archbishop of Canterbury, accompanied by the learned Monk Giraldus du Barri, preached the Crusade from Castle to Castle, from town to town, awakened the inmost valleys of his native Cambria with the call to arms for recovery of the Holy Sepulchre, and while he deprecated the feuds and wars of Christian men, held out to the martial spirit of the age a general object of ambition and a scene of adventure where the favour of Heaven as well as courtly renown was to reward the successful champions."

The novel describes a Castle named "Le Garde Dolorouse," on the Marches of Wales, and its inner life, and if not Oswestry Castle, it is certainly somewhere close at hand, with its Norman garrison and Welsh assailants under their Prince—the "torch of Pengwern"—so named because he had so frequently burnt the villages up to the Walls of Shrewsbury, the ancient Pengwern. Giraldus in his most interesting itinerary through Wales, dated about 1187, gives a vivid description of the dangers of the journey through the Welsh valleys, and describes how the Archbishop, ascending a hill, sat panting with toil on the trunk of a tree, and asked an attendant to whistle a tune, whereupon someone remarked that the Nightingale never came to Wales. "Wise bird the Nightingale," said the Archbishop. Giraldus proceeds to tell, "We directed our way from Chester to the White Monastery, and from thence towards Oswaldstre, where on the very borders of Powys we were met by Gruffydd son of Madoc and Elissa, princes of that country and many others." One can imagine the scene; the Archbishop in his robes with the crosier and the cross in front, and Giraldus, the courteous Archdeacon, who are met by William Fitzalan, the Norman Governor of the Castle, with his garrison, and the Welsh Prince clad in a simple tunic of white linen cloth with a chain of twisted gold links, and a thread of gold in his curling hair, with his attend-

ants carrying broad sharp short two-edged swords and light goat skin bucklers. Giraldus tells us the Welsh Prince was "a man not adorned by art but nature, bearing in his presence an inborn not an acquired dignity of manners." He says—"Some few of them having been persuaded to take the Cross (for several of the multitude had been previously signed by Reiner, the bishop of that place), we slept at Oswaldestre, or the tree of St. Oswald, and were sumptuously entertained after the English manner by William Fitzalan, a noble and liberal young man." John Davies, in his history, comments that this was "a neate comendacon of this young nobleman." One is glad to see that Oswestry hospitality was renowned even seven centuries ago. It appears that one Welsh Prince, "Owen de Civilioc" (who had been one of the leaders of the Welsh army against Henry II.) refused to accept the invitation to come to Oswestry, and therefore Giraldus says, "We excommunicated him because he alone amongst the Welsh princes did not come to meet the Archbishop." Giraldus had considerable opinion of his powers as a preacher, for he goes on to say, "Many people were induced to take the Cross through the gracious sermons of the Archbishop and Archdeacon" (the latter being himself.) One wonders what became of the Oswestrians who followed the Crusading Army which, under Henry II.'s son and successor, Richard Cœur de Lion, besieged Jerusalem, and conjectures the stories they must have had to tell when they reached home once more. One of the Crusaders who accompanied John Fitzalan was Maurice or Meurig Lloyd or Llwyd, of Llanforda,[1] and of him it is recorded, "The above-named Meurig Llwyd, finding himself and his tenants much oppressed by the English laws, did kill one of the judges, and hang divers officers in oak trees in Uwch Dwlas; whereupon he withdrew for his safety to the Sanctuary of Halston, and there put himself under the protection of John

[1] *Powys Fadog*, vol. vii., page 353.

Fitzalan, Lord of Oswestry and Clun. Meurig was made captain over a number of soldiers gathered in the marches of Wales. With these he went to the Continent, and for certain services rendered in the war was rewarded by the Emperor with a new coat of arms, viz., argent, an eagle displayed with two necks sable." He was the ancestor of the Llwyds of Llwynymaen and Llanforda. These arms are still to be seen on Llwyd's Oswestry town house, now called Llwyd Mansion, the property of Mr. Stanley Leighton, and now occupied by Messrs. Dutton. William Fitzalan granted the first charter to Oswestry about 1190, which is not to be found in any of the Borough Records, although John Davies gives a copy of it.[1] The title of "Siarter Cwtta" is disputed with the charter granted by Richard II. As this Charter is not published in the "Records of the Corporation of Oswestry," which appeared in Shropshire Archæological *Transactions*, Vols. II., III., and IV., I append the extract given by Davies.

Charter gutta or Charta brevis Will'mi d'ni ffitzalan.

Sciant tam p'sentes qua' futuri qd ego Willim' filius Willi'mi filii Alani recepi in manu et ptec'one mea Burgenses meos de Blanc'mocter nominatim illos qui in ballio' meo messuagia receperunt ad emendac'one merchati mei, et ego eos contra omnes manutenebo quatenus de jure potero; Quare id'm volo et firmiter p'cipio quatenus prefati burgenses teneant messuagia sua licite et in pace et honorifice libere et quiete in bosco in plano et in alibi locis. Concessi etia (*sic*) eiusdem Burgensibus qd p'dic burgagia teneant de me s'edu' leges et consuetudines et libertates quas Burgenses Salopia burgo suo habent. Cartam ratam in posteru' esse volui. Sigilli mei appositione et istoru' testui' subscripc'one confirmavi, Joh'n Extranea Ham' fratris sui, Helie de fes, Philippi fil' Will'mi, Reg' de he, Will de Verdun, Reg. eli orm de Hesse et multis aliis.

A free translation would run thus :—

Short Charter of William Lord Fitzalan.

Let these present as well as future generations know that I William son of William son of Alan have received under my

[1] Harl. M.S., 1981, page 25.

hand and protection my burgesses of Blanc Minster by name those who have received messuages in my borough (?) for the sale of my merchandise, and I will defend them against all (persons) as far as I lawfully shall be able. Wherefore I myself wish and firmly give command as long as the aforesaid burgesses hold their messuages lawfully and in peace and honourably that they live freely and quietly in field in plain and in places elsewhere. I have also granted to the same burgesses that they hold the aforesaid messuages from me according to the laws and customs and liberties which the burgesses of Salop hold in their borough. I have expressed it as my wish that the Charter be ratified for the future. And have confirmed (it) by the placing of my seal and by the subscription of the witnesses—John stranger in blood, Ham' his brother, Helie de fes, Philip son of William, Reginald de he, William de Verden[1] Reginald . . . . de Hesse, and many others.

On William Fitzalan's death King John was reigning (and in the usual fashion of feudal days, when all lands were held from the King), seized his estates, and held them during the minority of his son, the third William Fitzalan. Those were again troublous times in England. Wales was again up in arms, taking advantage of the English troubles, and under Llewelyn, its Prince, broke out in rebellion. King John marched direct from the eastern counties with a large army to Oswestry, and made it hishead quarters, and stored in the Castle immense munitions for the war. He was successful in repelling the Welsh invasion, and drove Llewelyn into his mountain fastnesses ; but was soon recalled to England by the invasion of King Philip of France, whom the Barons had summoned to their aid. Imme-

[1] Davies, referring to this Charter, says—"The second Willia' ffitzalan being Lord of Oswestry in the right of his wief Maud Verden graunted a ch're (w'ch is the antientiest Ch're nowe extant) to the Burgesses of Oswestry. Will de Verden (inter alios), happily some kinsman of his wief, is witnesse to it. This Ch're beareth no date and is called Charter Gutta, id est Charta brevis, p'te of the Label is to it but the scale taken from it. S'r Willia' Neve hath a Coppie of this Ch're I have translated it as I redde and understood it; happily I may be somewhere mistaken as unacquainted w'th that ould hand and character."

diately the King disappeared the canny Oswestrians seized upon the Castle stores, and, no doubt, feasted merrily; but King John was not to be served in that way, and so by a writ, dated 6th July, 1212, he commanded the custodian of Oswestry Castle "to sell no more corn, wine, or other stores of the King," and to replace the corn he had already disposed of, and also to provide "100 fat kine and also 3,000 head of geese and poultry for transmission whithersoever the King might order," and in the next month Robert de Vipont, the then custodian of the Castle, was ordered to give up 12 casks of wine, stored in the cellars of the Castle, to Thomas de Eardinton for the King's service. The Fitzalan heir by this time had come of age, and John fined him 10,000 marks for the privilege of doing so. Unable to pay, his lands were handed over to Thomas de Eardinton, who had taken possession of the wine. William died without paying the fine, and his son, John Fitzalan, not so meek as his father, at once seized the Castle by main force. He immediately united himself with the Barons in opposition to John, and was one of the memorable group who at Runnymede forced the unworthy King to sign Magna Charta.[1] Having obtained the sanction of the Pope, John set out to revenge himself upon the Barons, and marched towards Wales, and as Llwyd tells us, "came along to Oswestree, which towne being in the possession of John Fitzalan, he burned to the earthe" in the month of August, 1216. He was succeeded by Henry III., whose idea it was to make himself master of Normandy once more and to recover the absolute authority in England which had slipped from his father's hands; but he soon found himself face to face with the Welsh difficulty. Wales had long been prosperous under its Prince Llewelyn ap Iorwerth, who reigned for 46 years. After many struggles he had succeeded in consolidating

[1] These statements are mainly summarized from Eyton's *Ant*, where the references are given.

his authority, and aimed steadily at securing the means of shaking off the English yoke. John had in vain tried to subdue him. His is one of the most chivalrous figures in Welsh history.[1] In him all the glories of ancient Welsh story had centered. Poet after poet sang of "The Devastator of England," the "Eagle of men that loves not to lie nor sleep." His figure "was majestic, towering above the rest of men," with "his long red lance, his red helmet of battle, crested with a fierce wolf." Mysterious prophecies came to nerve Wales in her last struggle. "Think you," said Henry III. to a Welsh chieftain, "that your people of rebels can withstand my army?" "My people," replied the Chieftain, "may be weakened by your might, and even in great part destroyed, but unless the wrath of God be on the side of its foe, it will not perish utterly. Nor deem I that other race or other tongue will answer for this corner of the world before the Judge of all at the last day, save this people and tongue of Wales." On Saturday, 25th October, 1226, Prince Llewelyn visited Oswestry Castle, on the King's invitation, to confer with John Fitzalan, the Bishops of Hereford and Worcester, and other Barons, to endeavour to arrange a border dispute. "After which," we are told by the Chronicler, "every party returned home." But Llewelyn's next visit was not so friendly. The little town had just been rebuilt after the devastation of the English Monarch, when in 1233 Llewelyn rushed over the border, as one of the bards sang, "The sound of his coming is like the roar of the wave as it rushes to the shore." Llewelyn reduced Shrewsbury, annexed Powysland, and as Llwyd tells us, "destroyed all the townes and castles in the countrie, burned the towne of Clunn, overthrew the Reddecastell in Powys, burned the towne of Oswestree, and so came home."[2] One pictures the scene, the flight of the

[1] Green's *His. Eng. People*, vol. i., page 128.
[2] Llwyd's *Hist. Camb.*, p. 288.

scared villagers from the Severn Valley and the Shropshire Plain, pursued by the active Welsh, whose shrill war cries spread dismay and death; the startled townsmen watching from the heights the smoke from the burning homesteads and taking refuge in the Castle while their houses, clustering under its walls, are destroyed, and, as the Chronicler tells, the Welsh "returning homeward with a great bootie." Life in Oswestry must have been too sensational to be pleasant in those days.

The Records of that year tell us that Hubert Hose with nine other knights were placed on garrison in Oswestry Castle for 20 days from September 28th to October 17th, at a cost of 2s. per day for each knight. In 1262 John Fitzalan granted to Oswestry a Charter, a copy of which is the earliest dated document among our Borough Records—"By the special grace and favour we bear and have towards our Burgesses and the increase and wealth of our Burgesses," &c. In 1272 the third John Fitzalan died, and again the Crown took possession of the Castle and its lands, and a full inventory is given of the estates.[1] I extract some of the items which are curious. The tenants of the Welsh part of Oswestry, near Treflach, had to provide 40 marks per annum to supply the drink ("poturam") of certain Serjeants of the Peace; the proceeds of St. Oswald's fair came to £4 6s. 2d., and the tolls of the Borough to £27 11s. 11½d., while the sale of the produce of the Castle garden came to 2s. 6d., and the profits of the Borough Gaol 9s. 4d., and the "rents of the Welshmen" £4 19s. 6d. The wages of the Watchman, the Mower, and the forester at 1d. per day each came to £7 8s. 3d. per annum.

A new King now appeared, Edward I., a stern soldier, of very different metal from his predecessor, Henry III., determined to subdue Wales, "a born soldier, tall, deep chested, long of limb, capable alike of

[1] Ch. Inq. Post Mortem 56 H. III., No. 36.

endurance and action, and sharing to the full his people's love of venture and hard fighting. He was every inch a King, and his notion of kingship was a lofty and noble one."[1] The troubles of his father's last years had enabled the Welsh to shake off their last traces of dependence, but in 1277 Edward marched to North Wales and forced Prince Llewelyn to ask mercy, and for four years there was quietness on the border. Archbishop Peckham of Canterbury was sent by Edward to endeavour to pacify the Welsh, and Llwyd gives a most interesting correspondence between Prince Llewelyn and "His Holiness the Archbishop," which shows that Oswestry Castle and its Constable played an all important part in the history of the time, and illustrates the arbitrary rule of the Lords Marchers.

Humblie complaineth unto your lordship, my lord Archbishop of Canturburie Primate of all England, Lhewelyn ap Gruffyth ap Madoc, of the Constable of Oswaldes Crosse, the King and the men of that towne, who have spoiled the said Lhewelyn of the third part of a towne called Lhedrot,[2] and his father's house without any law or right or custome of the countrie. Further the said Constable and his complices have against the lawes and the custome of the countrie spoiled the said Lhewelyn of the common and pasturage, which he and his predecessors have had and used time out of mind; And further condemned the said Lhewelyn for the said pasture in lxx markes.

Also the said Constable compelled the said Lhewelyn to send two of his Gentlemen to him, whom when they came to him he caused to be hanged, which Gentlemen ought not by right to have beene hanged, whose parents had rather have given him three hundreth pound.

Afterward the said Constable imprisoned threescore of the men of the said Lhewelyn (no cause alledged) but that a certaine Page spake a word: who could not be delivered out of prison, until everie of them paid ten shillings.

When the men of the said Lhewelyn came to the said towne to sell their oxen, the said Constable would cause the beastes

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[1] Green's *His. Eng. People*, vol. i., 315.

[2] Lledrod is a township in the Parish of Llansilin, Co. Denbigh, and is 6 miles from Oswestry.

to be driven to the Castell: neither would he restore the beastes nor monie to them. Further the said Constable and his men tooke awaie the cattel of the said Lhewelyn from his owne grounde and did their will with them.

John de Oxindin had the custody of Blancminster in 1 Ed. I., and in 3 Ed. I. Bogo de Knovil was Custodian of the Castle of Blancminster.[1]

In 1282 Edward marched with overpowering strength into the heart of Wales; the war lasted two years, but at last after stubborn resistance Llewelyn was defeated, his head carried to Edward, who "received it with great joy, and caused it to be set upon one of the highest turrets of the Tower of London." In the same year Edward expedited a Patent permitting the Bailiffs and Burgesses of Oswestry to levy tolls for twenty years in aid of the completion and repair of the town walls. The tolls are given most elaborately from 1d. for every measure of corn exposed for sale and every cloth of silk, brocaded and draped with gold, to one farthing for every 2,000 onions, and one halfpenny for every 1,000 herrings.[2] The walls, it is said, "were about a mile in compass, and had a deep foss on the outside capable of being filled with water from the neighbouring ditches." On 16th January in the same year Edward himself visited Oswestry, no doubt to ascertain how the fortifications were being carried out. The last flicker of Welsh patriotism had not died out however, for in a few years afterwards when Edward was busy with his Scotch wars, Llewelyn's son, Madoc, once more raised the Welsh standard, and we are told "came to Oswestree, where the people yielded unto him." Edward had to postpone his expedition to France for quite six months in order to put down the insurrection, and he visited Oswestry Castle again on 24th June, 1295, and the rebellion was finally crushed out in August, 1295. And from thence, as the

[1] Old MS. at Oswestry Grammar School.
[2] *Powys Fadog*, vol. vi., p. 372.

Chronicler tells, "the Welsh began to attend to the cultivation of the soil and the profits of commerce, so that at length the possession of property of their own made them less indifferent to its patriotism." The following is an extract from an old M.S. at Oswestry Grammar School:—"In 8 Ed. I., Isabel, mother of Richard, Earl of Arundel, had the custody of the Castle of Blancminster and of the Hundred of Oswaldster during her son's minority, but two years after Edmund de Mortimer, her brother, supplanted her in the grant. In 18 Ed. I., Adam de Montgomery died Governor of the Castle. In 27 Ed. I., Peter Meuvesne de Berewicke justa Akinton died in the same office." In 1302 Richard Fitzalan, the then Lord, died, and an Inquisition was made of his properties.[1] It was certified that Oswestry Castle was "of no nett value because of the great expences more than £10 per annum attendant on its maintenance." "De quib ten' p'd'c'm' Castrum nichil valet p'p't magnas reprisas eo q'd nonsustent abit'r p' ann p' x libr'." Two years later Edward had given the custody of Oswestry Castle into the hands of his cousin Prince Amadeus of Savoy, and the Burgesses complained that he had altered the law so that "Whereas a Burgess of Oswestry if he wounded or maimed his fellow citizen was according to Oswestry law only amenable to a fine of 5s.," the Earl's Seneschal was in the habit of fining quarrelsome Burgesses £5 or £10 for a simple offence, and committed "other enormities," whereupon the king ordered a commission of men from Cause, Ellesmere, and Whittington, "honest men, favourable to neither party," to sit upon the question, but the result is not recorded and we are left in ignorance whether "5s. and costs" was sufficient penalty for the loss of a leg or arm. Oswestry quarrels were evidently frequent, and fines cheap in those days.[2]

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[1] Ch. Inquis. Post Mortem 30 Ed. I., No. 130.
[2] Eyton's *Ant.* vol. x.

"Happy is the land which has no history." The Welsh wars were over, Edward had completely subdued Wales, and Oswestry had rest for a long period. In 1318 Earl Edmund Fitzalan was ordered to raise 200 foot soldiers from Clun and the neighbourhood of Oswestry for the Scotch war.[1]

In 1324, nearly at the close of the reign of that weak and indolent Monarch, Edward II., Edmund Fitzalan, granted two shops "to our burgesses of Oswaldstree, situated in the row which is called Legge Street, betwixt the shops of the sons of Richard the Stranger and the tenement of William son of William the Baker." In 1326 the rebellion, which closed Edward's unhappy reign by his deposition, broke out. Earl Edmund, who adhered to the King, "assembled a multitude of his tenants at Oswestry for the King," but was taken prisoner near Shrewsbury, and executed at Hereford on 17th November, 1326. After his execution and through the favour of Isabella, Edward II.'s Queen, Roger Mortimer, Lord of Wigmore, the well-known head of the Lancastrian Party, obtained a grant of the Castle of Oswestry. He was created Lord of the Marches of Wales in 1328, but on his fall from power and his execution in 1330, the estates reverted to Edmund's son, Richard, the then Earl of Arundel.

In 1346 a writ directed Earl Richard to raise 200 men from Clun and Oswestry to attend the King in the French wars. The army sailed from Portsmouth on 10 July, and on 26 August fought the battle of Crecy, at which Arundel was present.[2] With the end of the fourteenth century and the reign of Richard II., Oswestry again figures in English history. One cannot do better than quote Davies's history :—

Richard Earl of Arundell (a noble patriott of an heroicke spirit of greate power and comaunde beinge of the Royall

[1] S.A. *Trans.*, vol. iii., N.S., p. 243.
[2] S. A. *Trans.*, vol. iii., N. S., p. 245.

blood) ioyninge with the Duke of Glocester the King's unckle and others for the Kings ho'ble weale and publiq good of the Kingdome was nev'thelesse through subornation of some upstart favorites of the Kinge and his flatterers (p'fessed enemies to the men of antient nobility), by the Kings p'curement condemned to death in the p'lian.ent held the xxist yeere of that Kings raigne where the Prelattes depted the house because they would not be pr'sent att the judgment of blood. And there it was ordained by Stat. 27 Ric. II. that the County of Chester should be a principalitie soe the King for his affec'on thereunto would have it. And for the encrease of the honor and state of princes w'ch should be there and for the ease and tranquility of the people of the said principalitie and of the counties of fflint and Shropshire and of the Seignouries w'ch be joyninge to the same The castle of Lyons (nowe called Hoult) w'th the Seigniories of Bromfield and Yale to the said Castle belonginge, The Castle of Oswaldstree w'th the Town well walled w'th stone and the hundred and the Eleven Townes to the said Castle belonginge, The Castle of Isabell w'th the Seigniories of the same belonginge, the Castle of Dallilay w'th the app'tenances in the County of Shropshire and the rever'con of the Seignourie of the Cleve w'th all their tearme of app'tenances w'ch Edward Earle of Rutland houldeth for tearme of his life shall be from henceforth anixed united and incorporat to the said principality of Chester and shall whoely abide and Remaine to the said principality as p'cell and member of the same for ever. Soe that the said resiant Land tenants and all the inhabitants of the said Castles Seigniories and Townes shall have use and enioy all their antient Lawes Rights and Customes there of ould time reasonablie hadd and used.

Richard Fitzalan was impeached, attainted, and beheaded all in a single day.

At the beginning of the present century there was an assize trial in which the burgesses of Oswestry tried to prove that the then Earl of Powis was not entitled as Lord of the Manor to take toll upon produce entering into Oswestry, and among other documents produced was the following curious Record, preserved in the Tower Rolls, containing an inventory of the contents of Oswestry Castle, the property of the unfortunate Earl of Arundel. It was translated from the original Latin as follows :—

21[1] Richard II., 1398. Taken at Oswaldestre in the Marches of Wales, by command of the King, the 9th Nov. on the attainder of Richard, Earl of Arundel and others; before John Spaigne, John Pygot the elder, clerk, Richard Kays, Serjeant-at-Arms of the lord the King; in the county and marches aforesaid, by virtue of a Royal Commission to the said John Spaigne and others directed. By the oath of William Morgan, Richard Salter, John Lloyd, Eigin ap Richard, Thomas Englys, William Haston, Thomas ap David, Eigin Cornesor, Jonathan Straunge, Thomas Robynson, Roger Dirlond, David Lloyd, Eigin ap Richard, Robert ap Gruffuth, David ap Ievan Vaughan, Madoc ap David Gethin, Griffith ap Meur, Ievan ap Howell ap Eigin, William Lloyd, Eynos ap Blethyn, Iorweth ap Ievan, Gruffuth ap David Vagan, John Salter, Gruffuth ap Ith, and John ap Richard, who say upon oath, that Richard, Earl of Arundel, was seized in his demesne as of fee, on the day on which he forfeited, and afterwards of the Castle, vill, and Lordship of Oswaldestre, with its customs and appurtenances, besides the fees of all the officers there, and besides all reprises made there one year with another £252 16s. 2d. Also that the said Earl was seized as of fee of one messuage in the vill of Oswaldestre by his deed enfeoffed one John ap Willym, to have to him and his heirs for ever, worth yearly beyond reprises 6s. 8d. Also that the said Earl was seized as of fee of the reversion of another messuage then held by Alan Thorp, clerk, of the said Earl's grant, but its worth nothing yearly beyond reprises. Also that the said Earl was seized as of fee of the advowson of the free chapel of St. Nicholas within the Castle of Oswaldestre, worth 46s. 8d. Also that the said Earl of Arundel had within the Castle of Oswaldestre, on the 18th day of July last past and afterwards, the following goods and chattels, that is to say, *In the Wardrobe* there 5 yew bows, 4 elm bows, 20 sheaves of arrows, 6 cross bows, 5 lances with 6 heads, 1 gun, 1 barrel of gunpowder, 200 quirrels, 3 pole axes, 2 sparthes, 3 broken jacks, 3 pair of gauntlets, 3 pallets, 1 bauderick for a cross bow, 1 table, 1 pair of stakes, 3 pair of fetters, 6 pair iron handcuffs with iron bolts, 1 cofer with 2 iron shamylls, 1 file, 1 hammer. *In the great Chamber* 1 cupboard, 2 tables, 4 forms. *In the Middle Chamber*, 3 chests, 2 forms, 1 table. *In*

[1] Ch. Inq. Post. Mort., 21 R. II., Nos. 1—11 (1398), Bundle of Forfeitures.

the high Chamber, 1 hand mill, parcel of a certain trepeget. *In the Constables Hall*, 3 tables, 4 tressels, 3 forms, 1 bason with a laver, 1 small chest. *In the buttery*, 1 chest broken at the top, 1 bucket with an iron chain, 1 barrel for weapons, 31 keys for different locks. *In the Chapel*, 1 vessel for the holy water, 1 missall, 1 gilt chalice, 2 linen towels with a frontal, 2 surplices, 2 chasubles, with apparels, 1 hand mill for grinding corn. *In the Kitchen*, 1 stone mortar, with a pile of wood. *In the Larder*, 2 broken hogsheads with 6 bushels of salt, Which said artillery, arms, goods, and chattels, are put into the custody of Madoc Lloyd, the deputy of Robert Leigh, Chevalier, constable of the castle aforesaid, for the defence of the same. Also they say there are in the parks of Bromhurst and Oswaldestre, 60 cart loads of hay by estimation at the price of forty pence per load (£10) left there for the use of the lord the King. Also they say the said Earl had there likewise on the 18th July aforesaid and afterwards, the arms and artillery as underwritten, 3 jacks, 3 pallets, 3 pair of gauntlets, 2 pole axes, 5 yew bows, 9 sheaves and a half of arrows, 1 lance, 6 lance heads, 2 chests for bows and arrows to be put, 3 cross bows, 100 quirrels, 4 leaden vessels, 2 brass pots, 1 iron spit, 1 iron bound bushel, 3 pair of fetters, 1 fetter rack, 1 ladder; but the jury are ignorant of what value, or in whose hands the said arms now are, but they say one Roger Glas, late constable of the said castle, and John de Pole late constable there and one William Bonastre late warden of the said castle, are themselves answerable to the said lord the king, for the said arms. And they say the said Earl of Arundell had likewise on the said 18th day of July in the castle aforesaid, 1 salting trough of the price of 3s. 4d., 6 chests, price 17s. 8d., 5 small cads (broken), 3 small pieces of broken cads, price 20s. 8d., 4 tubs 23d., 1 bolting pipe and 1 trough 12d., parcel of old timber, 6s., 1 brass pot, 1 pan, 1 gobard, 1 broken gridiron, in the whole 3s. 4d., 4 broken worsted landres of the arms of Arundel, 4d., 1 stall 13s. 4d. And in the park of Oswaldestre inferior 11 colts, whereof 3 are horses, and 8 mares 1 year old, price each 9s. 8d.; And in a certain house in the vill of Oswaldestre 601 fleeces of wool, weighing 2 sacks and $\frac{1}{8}$th of a sack at per sack 100s., 50 gallons of honey, at 7d. a gallon. Also the said Earl had in the said Castle, 1 white stallion, price £10, 1 race horse called Young Sorrell, price £13 6s. 8d. And in the park of Oswaldestre superior, 16 horse colts, 13 of which are 3 years, and 3 of them 2 years old, price in the whole £66 13s. 4d. And they say that one Walter Ushere, late master of the horse of the said Earl

by connivance made between John Whethales, late Steward of the said Earl in the Lordship aforesaid, and one Adam de Peshall, knight, sold the stallions and colts aforsaid, without receiving any money, to one John Coltman by fraud and collusion, to the use and profit of the said John Whethales and Adam, by which the said John Whethales and Adam are answerable to the lord the King for the aforesaid £66 13s. 4d., the price of the said stallions, courser, and colts aforesaid. Also they say that Thomas Richardson, of Oswaldestre, took and carried away after the said 18th of July out of the Castle 60 fleeces of wool, weighing $\frac{1}{4}^{th}$ of a sack, price 25s., whereof he is answerable to the lord the King. Also they say the said Earl had after the said 18th July, in the Castle aforesaid, £720 in money, and that one Thomas Harlying, late receiver-general of the said Earl, took and carried away the same, whereof he is answerable to the lord the King. Also they say that Alan de Thorp, clerk, late receiver there, delivered out of the Earl's money in his hands, 100 marks to Robert de Hilton, Esq., whereof the said Alan and Robert are themselves answerable to the lord the King. Also they say the arrears of the farms and rents of the castle, vill, lordship, and manor aforesaid unto the last vigil of St. Michael, which extend to £333, are in the hands of divers tenants, bailiffs, reeves, and other ministers there, who are accountable for the same. And they say that the rents and farms of the term of St. Michael last past do extend to £66 13s. 4d., and are in the hands of the tenants there, whereof the receiver is to be accountable. In testimony whereof to this Inquisition the persons aforesaid have set their seals, dated the place aforesaid.

It is clear that the Castles of Nobles were not furnished with any luxuries in those days. Richard II. shortly afterwards held a Parliament (known to historians as the Great Parliament) in Shrewsbury (probably in order to inspect the estates he had seized), which he adjourned to Oswestry, where one of the most memorable and dramatic scenes in the pages of Shakespeare took place. "Richard II. with the committee of Parliament in this town determined that the great dispute between the Duke of Hereford and Mowbray, Duke of Norfolk, should be decided by single combat at Coventry, both Dukes having appeared before the King at Oswestry after the dissolution of

the Parliament held at Shrewsbury."[1] One can imagine the gay pageant as the Monarch, so vain of his personal appearance, "handsome and golden-haired," just thirty years of age, with his enormous retinue of servants, clad in costly liveries, and the nobles of his Court all vying in extravagance, rode over the Shropshire plain through the two long narrow streets of which Oswestry then consisted, up to the Castle. In his company were the two bitter foes, the Dukes of Hereford and Norfolk—the former better known as Harry Bolingbroke. On 19th March, 1398, in the Castle of Oswestry they appealed to the King, who ordered them to fight their quarrel out at Coventry.

Shakespeare begins his tragedy, "Richard II.," with the scene, but by a poetical licence makes it take place in the Tower of London instead of Oswestry Castle.

> Face to face,
> And frowning brow to brow, ourselves will hear
> The accuser and the accused freely speak—

And the noble appeal of Norfolk echoed through the walls of our old Castle—

> My dear, dear Lord,
> The purest treasure mortal lives afford,
> Is—spotless reputation; that away,
> Men are but gilded loam, or painted clay.
> A jewel in a ten-times-barr'd-up chest
> Is—a bold spirit in a loyal breast.

The entertainment of the King was costly even in those days. There was no Local Government Auditor then, and the unfortunate Oswestrians had to borrow £100 from their Lord, which was to be expended partly "in divers labours and necessary negotiations when Richard, King of England, had occupied the said town," and partly in defraying losses "during

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[1] *Pennant's Hist. of Oswestry. Drake's Parl. Hist.*, vol. i., 493. The account of the Great Parliament will be found fully given in Owen and Blakeway's *Hist. of Shrewsbury*, where there is a similar reference to the adjournment to Oswestry or Oswaldstree, as Drake terms it. Pennant evidently quotes from Drake.

Owen Glendwr's rebellion."[1] It was during this visit and before the Parliament closed that Richard II. granted the first Royal Charter to Oswestry, which is still in our possession, and ornamented by a fine initial portrait of the King. Davies says the Charter was obtained because "the inhabitants of Oswestrie sued to Kinge Richard for it." Camden, writing in Queen Elizabeth's reign, says that "Oswestry Castle had a tower called Madoc's, in which was an apartment built by Richard II."[2]

Davies describes how Richard, Earl of Arundel, was "reputed a martire," and not only "soe, ye said Earle did often seeme to appeare unto him (Richard the Kinge) in so terrible and truculent a manner that breakinge his fearfull sleepe the King would curse the tyme that ever hee knewe him." And Davies attributes Richard II.'s deposition by the successful Henry Bolingbroke to the Almighty vengeance for this crime. Richard II. granted the lands and manors belonging to Richard, Earl of Arundel, to William Scrope, the newly created Earl of Wiltshire, but immediately upon Henry's accession, and in the first year of his reign an Act was passed (H. IV. cap. viii.) disannulling the forfeiture of the lands of the Earl of Arundel, and as a consequence "Soe disjoynted it from the late erected principalitie of Chester," and the Arundel family again became possessors of Oswestry Castle. Wales had been devoted to Richard II., notwithstanding his failings, and so notorious was its disaffection that when Henry's son knelt to receive a grant of the Principality as Prince of Wales a shrewd bystander murmured "he must conquer it if he will have it." One has no time to speak of Owen Glyndwr's rebellion, but Davies says that "some of the townsmen there and others of the neighbourhood joined Glyndwr in the rebellion." Oswestry was unfortunate again, for in the year 1400 Owen Glyndwr seized the town, and as a consequence it was nearly

[1] See Release from Earl of Arundel, S. A. *Trans.*, vol. ii., p. 207.
[2] Camden's *Britannia*, vol. ii., p. 420; Leland's *Itinerary* v., 39.

totally destroyed by fire "during the war of the Welsh people." It is said that the title of one of the suburbs, "Pentre Poeth," or "hot town," is due to this calamity. In compassion for the misfortunes of the town Thomas, Earl of Arundel, who had then been restored to his father's property, granted a pardon to those who had joined the rebellion, and gave a release of the £100 lent by his grandfather. This document is among our Records, and it describes in royal phraseology that "Our Welshmen of our jurisdiction of the hundred of Oswestry, who through the tenure of their same lands from antiquity held and should hold four of the gates of our town aforesaid with a number of Welshmen rose up against Us as Rebels at the instigation of a man named Kayes, and by force and aid held on with other Welsh Robbers and treacherously burnt as booty our aforesaid towne." One of the witnesses to the Release is David Holbeache, founder of Oswestry Grammar School, who is said to have been a relation of Owen Glyndwr.

The same Earl granted a Charter to Oswestry, by which it was provided that the burgesses should be discharged from all fees demanded by the constable of the castle or any of his menial servants for any felonies or trespasses done or committed out of the liberties when brought to the prison of the castle for the said offences, "saving that yearly on St. Stephen's Day the Constable might demand and receive unum panem, or else a penny at his own election for every mansion house in the towne and a farthing of every cottage." It is interesting to note that Davies in 1635 tells us referring to Beatrice Gate, "Others say that gate was built by another greate lady named Beatrix, daughter of King John of Portingill, and married to Thomas, Earl of Arundel and Surrey, in 1405, in the presence of Henry IV., King of England.

One hears little of Oswestry Castle during the Wars of the Roses and the end of the fifteenth century; but with the assistance of the Hon. Mrs. Bulkeley-Owen and

the late Mr. Howel W. Lloyd, I have succeeded in piecing together a curious incident, which throws light upon the unsettled state of the Marches.

In 1519 there is an entry in the Star Chamber Proceedings,[1] communicated to me by the Hon. Mrs. Bulkeley-Owen, in a suit in which the Earl of Arundel was plaintiff, and Meredyth ap Howel defendant, in which the Earl complained "that the said Meredyth without authority or assent of the said Lord by force entered the Castell of Oswestre in the March of Walys and denied entry to the Lord's servants. My Lord knowing that, sent to the said Meredith to avoid the said Castle, at last he was avoided. Then my Lord appointed one Ievan Lloyd a substanyall Gentleman constable there, when he came to enter and his patent proclaimed in the Court there after the custom, the said Meredith with others with him set on the said Lloyd and his followers, and killed and murdered them." After this Meredith and his followers "besieged the Castle and entered and took away stuff therefrom, and took Ievan Lloyd's brother and robbed and spoyled him, and kept him in prison."

There is but little doubt that in this remote part of the Kingdom, which was then a sort of no man's land, every man did what was right in his own eyes, while the feudal Lord only interfered when his own rights were molested. This is one side to the story. Glyn Cothi, the well known Welsh Bard of the fifteenth century, describes in glowing language the virtues of this same Meredydd ap Howel in a Poem (Cywydd) which he addressed 'To Meredydd ab Howell ab Morys and to the Towne of Oswestry (Croes Oswallt)." The late Mr. Howel W. Lloyd kindly translated the poem, as follows :—

A POEM BY LEWYS GLYN COTHI.

To Maredydd ab Howell ab Morys and to the Town of Oswestry.

The town four ages old, will I not stake
On the dice, nor yet on the cards

[1] Bundle 18, No. 207, and Bundle 26, 313, and S. A. *Trans.*, Selattyn: A History of the Parish.

I will not stake ancient Oswestry on the hill
On the draught-board nor at chess.
The best of any single town are its people,
The best of any one round Castle is its wine.
Has any Castle around its equal?
Or have better burgesses been found?
In it are the shops of Cheap,
And harmony and honesty also;
A cruciform Church under an angle of a hill,
Churchmen who call upon Oswald,
She will have none of the lawlessness that has been,
Nor breach of privilege; the London of Wales!
To the Castle of stone is he a captain,
The stoutest of all in the great town,
To the bright Castle on the wall a Maximus
Is Maredydd the peer of Idwal;
A Hector is the son of Howel ab Morys,
The stalwart Earl of Llys Mechain;
Of chiefs has he been found most just
Of the stock of Einion, and of the Cyffins,
A lofty oak from Hendwr is this,
A youthful Dragon on Girion's side,
He belongs to the name of Rhydderch,
And the wise tongue of the ancient Gwaithvoer
In my mind is the name of Maredydd,
The name of Lludd is in this spot.
The London of the oaks of twenty hills
Are the revellers of the town Oswald;
Beli made Caerllion,
Son of Dyonwal, as the Isle of Mona;
And there had the hero a thousand
Warriors, every hundred,
The son of Howel, with the pale steeds,
Is the second generous one of this pale Castle;
And its arm, as it hath ever been,
And Captain of its people of equal age;
A stag is Maredydd over men,
He has become a man; an Eagle is he now,
A salmon of the salt water
Is the Stag on Oswald's Festival;
He is the excellent Captain,
His men are the shoal behind him,
Slender men, men smart and obedient,
Huge men and spearsmen glowing like embers,
Broad in the sun are their head pieces,
Fair is the haft of their axeheads of fire
Blazing on their azure poles.
Good in the hand are the bows; steel the axes,

Skilful is the step of the men in wheeling about;
That of the musicians is another step.
Like Maelgwn the Old has he been;
They, as his family, follow him,
He calls upon his soldiers,
He turns with his men to the tavern,
He pays for what they drink,
He gives the contribution of Ivor of yore,
A large jewel as far as Main,
And yet is he in Mechain.
In his fist are the heights of Edeyrniawn,
He is the one sword of the South, and its genius,
Let the multitude be drawn
After Maredydd, like the Town of Lud;
A prince of the town is he,
A Trystan over the third part of Troy;
May God bestow three lives on his hairs,
Three ages on the Stag of Oswald's land!

Edward Llwyd of Llwynymaen, near Oswestry, a descendant of the Crusader Meurig Lloyd, was Constable of Oswestry Castle under either Thomas Fitzalan, Earl of Arundel, who died 1525, or his son William, who died 1543.[1]

Another recently discovered item in the same Records dated 1528-9, shows that matters were still in a somewhat unsettled condition in Oswestry, and that the Constable of the Castle failed to maintain order.

In most grevowes and humble wyse sheweth unto yo'r highnes yo'r power Orator and dayly bedsman Thomas ap Meredith of the Towne of Oswestre in the Marches of Wales that where your power Orator toke to ferme by a lease of the Abbot and Co'vent of the monastry of Shrewsbury the Tithes of the p'she Church and p'sonage of Oswestre for certen yeres yet enduring by force whereof your bedsman peasable and quyetly occupyed the same the space of vii yeres passed untyll of late that oone S[r] Peres Bruerton Clerke on the ffeast of Seynt Chad in ye xx yere of yo'r noble Reigne p'tendyd and feyned title unto the said p'sonage and the same Sir Peter by the said p'tended title and the persons following that ys to wyt Edward Trevor constable of Oswestre John Trevor his sonne . . . . . being

[1] *Powys Fadog*, vi., p. 354, where a copy of Edward Llwyd's Will is given.

wylfull gentlemen accompanyed with diu'rs other mysruled p'sons of yo'r Lordship of Chirke as of divers other countreys to the number of two hundryed came at harvest in Ryatherovs maner, that ys to say wyth sÿths bowes arrows swords and sperys unto the Lordshipe of Oswestre and then and there made divers assaults and frayes upon yo^{r} orators servants and from yo^{r} orator both in forceable and ryotos man^{r} of the Teyth corne and hey of the same p'sonage to the sume of ffower score poundes and more to the undoing of yo^{r} said orator,"[1] &c.

And the complaint proceeds to set forth most elaborately how this was followed up by the "murther of William Kyffin and the sore wounding of diverse true men of the parishe," and finally "they cam into ye towne of Oswestre the said viii daye and then and there shotte arowes at yo'r orators sonne beying of x years of ayge but yt God savyd hym and so shotte at other Dyvers honest mennes houses of the same Towne in lyke forme so yt noo man durst come out of his house for Jeopardy of theyr lives to the enorme and horrible ensample of good Rule."

Edward Trevor, the Constable before mentioned, appears to have been guilty of other offences, as the following Record will show,extracted from Star Chamber Proceedings Henry VIII. It has never been published, and is interesting as containing an allusion to the Sanctuary at Halston, and also as an illustration of the troublous times on the Welsh Border.

Star Chamber Proceedings, Henry the Eighth, vol. x., p. 41.

To the Kyng our Sov^{r}eygn lord.

In the most humble wyse besecheth your g^{a}cyous hyghnes yo^{r} pore and dayly oratryx Augnes Clayton wedowe late wyffe off Hugh Clayton that where the seyd Hugh Clayton was att Oswestre in the Lordshippe of Oswestre in Goddys pease and yo^{r}s Rychard Berkley of Oswestre aboveseyd yoman s^{r}vaunt unto Edward Trevo^{r} Constable of the Castelle of Oswestre in the seyd lordshyppe Thomas ap John carter of Oswestre aboveseyd and Edward ap John carter the iiijth daye off August last past att Oswestre aboveseyd wyth force & armys

[1] *Bye-Gones* Sept. 14, 1892, Star Chamber Proceedings.

that ys to say wyth byllys swerdys & buklers agenst yo^{r} pease made assaulte uppon the seyd Hugh Clayton and hym than & there shamefully & felonously bete wounded kyld & murdered and afterward the seyd Rychard Berkley was indyted before the coroner of the seyd lordshyppe for the deth & murder of the seyd Hugh Clayton as pryncypelle and the seyd Thomas ap John carter and Edward ap John carter were than before the seyd coroner indyted as accessoryes to the same murder and thereuppon the seyd constable and John Trevo^{r} hys son Baylye of the seyd towne of Oswestre toke the seyd Thomas ap John carter & Edward ap John carter and put them in pryson and the seyd constable & baylye wylfully and favorabely not havyng r . . pect nor good mynde to your lawes and good justice suffered the seyd Rychard Berkeley than s^{r}vaunt to the seyd constable to escape and goo hys weye in to a sanctuary called Halstone and conveye hys goods & catallys theder w^{t} hym where for trowght the seyd Berkeley after that he was indyted was wyth the seyd constable & baylye waytyng uppon them so that they myght have taken and put hym in pryson as they dede the seyd ij accessoryes and moreov^{r} your seyd oratryx sayth that the seyd constable & baylie have the rule of the seyd lordshippe of Oswestre by reason of there offyces and the people there wylbe muche moved & ruled by them and the seyd constable & baylie favo^{r} socor & helpe the seyd murderers and have don and so contynnially from hensforth intend to do So that yo^{r} seyd pore oratryx can ne shalle have noe justice ne remedy ayenst the seyd murderers for the deth of her seyd husbond acordyng to your lawes whereby the seyd haynous and shamefulle murder of her seyd husbond ys lyke to be unpunysshe into the ylle and most p'ilous exsample of oder ylledoers and myschevous murderers In consyderacion whereof and for asmuche as yo^{r} seyd oratryx can ne shalle not have indyfferent trialle & justice in the seyd lordshippe for due punysshment of the deth & murder of her seyd husbond because of the myght & rule that the seyd constable & baylie have in the seyd lordshyppe and for there grete favo^{r} that they bere to the seyd murderers to g^{a}unt your g^{a}cyous letters of p^{r}vay seale to be dyrected to the seyd constable & baylie com'aundyng them by the same to apere before yo^{r} seyd g^{a}cyous hyghnes and yo^{r} most honorable councelle att yo^{r} palice att Westmester at a certeyn daye uppon a payne by yo^{r} g^{a}cyous hyghnes to be lymet there to aunswer do and receve in the p^{r}misses acordyng to ryght equite & justice and that your seyd hyghnes by your seyd honorable councelle wylle take suche dyreccion in thys behalffe that your seyd pore

oratryx maye have her due and conveiyent remedy ayenst the seyd murderers for punyssment of the seyd murder by her apele or oderwyse acordyng to yo^{r} lawes so that the seyd murderers maye not escape unpunyssed by the favo^{r} supportacion ayde and beryng of the seyd constable & baylie at the rev^{r}ence of allmyghty God and in the weye of charyte and your seyd pore oratryx shalle dayly p^{a}ye to God for the p^{r}s^{r}vacion of your most royalle astate long to indure.

[Endorsed] Clayton v^{r}s' Trevo^{r} & al'.

Vocentur Edwardus Trevo^{r} & Johannes Trevo^{r} infraque relati per b're de P.S. ad com' coram d'no Rege & con^{o} suo apud Westm' in oct' Hillarii p'x sub pena cujus lib't cor' c l'i Ex mandato d'ni Car^{lis} xxv^{to} Octobris

R. Lee.

Clayton v^{r}s' Trevo^{r}

An Inquisition was taken at "Ludlowe in Pentecost week 18 H. VI., upon the death of Beatrix Countess of Arundel,"[1] as to the dower of the Countess, which describes it as consisting of "parcel of the castle, town and manor of Oswaldestree, viz. in Castle of Oswaldestre, a new hall with an upper chamber annexed and other chambers and offices, also one third part of the Chapel there, third part of kitchen with larder, third part of a grange outside the castle, also the stable with a small granary with third part of garden next the Barbican, third part of Court house and third part of a well in the said Castle."

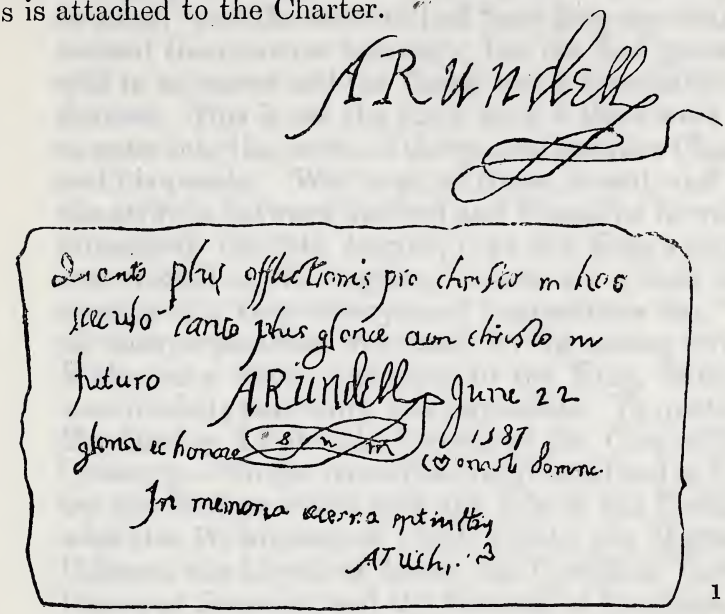
The privileges of the Lords Marchers were becoming more and more unsuited to the growth of the towns and villages. It was evident that a change must be made, and the Crown assume direct rule, and Davies tells us that "In 27 yere of the reign of Henry VIII. all ye Lords Marchers in England were extinguished, and their Royall authoritie subverted." And at the same time by Statute Oswestry with the other lands in the Marches was annexed "to and with the realm of England," and thenceforward the feudal rights of the Lords ceased, except in so far as chief rents were payable out of the lands and tolls collected at the four

[1] Ch. In. Post Mort., 18 H. VI., No. 28, Mem. 23.

gates of the town. In 1577 a document among the Aston Records shows that the Castle was still used as a place of residence, for a jury find "the Castle of Oswestry to have bin reputed the Lords chief house w'thin the lib'ties whether the same Castle had bin used as the Mansion House wherein the Lords of this Manur' themselves resident they knowe not, but they have heard that in times past the Lords Highe Constables had the use of the same Castle and dwelled therein of a long tyme. It hath nott bene inhabited att all nor occupied by any but by the Lords owne officers to the Lords use."

On the death of Earl Henry Fitzalan in 1580, without male issue, his daughter and heiress Mary married Thomas, Duke of Norfolk, and the titles and honours and much of the property of the House of Fitzalan were carried into the House of Howard. On the attainder of the fourth Duke of Norfolk for treason in connection with Mary Queen of Scots, his son Philip, although losing the Norfolk honours, retained the Earldom of Arundel in right of his mother, and the Baronies of Clun and Oswestry, and the title of Baron of Oswestry still survives in the Norfolk family. The Town Seal consists of the figure of King Oswald with an oak bough in his hand. It may be suggested that this is derived from the oak bough which is placed in the mouth of the white horse, the dexter supporter of the Norfolk crest, which is to be seen in the pictures of the New Gate in Church Street, Oswestry. The Inn which adjoins its site is known as the "White Horse," no doubt derived from this crest. Philip, Earl of Arundel, was the last Arundel who was territorial Lord of Oswestry, and met with a sad fate. He was one of the greatest scholars of his day, and Hepworth Dixon in his *Tower of London* gives his romantic biography. He died in the Tower in 1595, "not without suspicion of poison." In 1582, he granted to the town its first Constitution, still extant, signed "Arundell To these I agree so far as I may;" and the visitor to the Tower may see engraved

by the prisoner upon the walls of the Beauchamp Tower precisely the same signature with its curious "twirls," as is attached to the Charter.

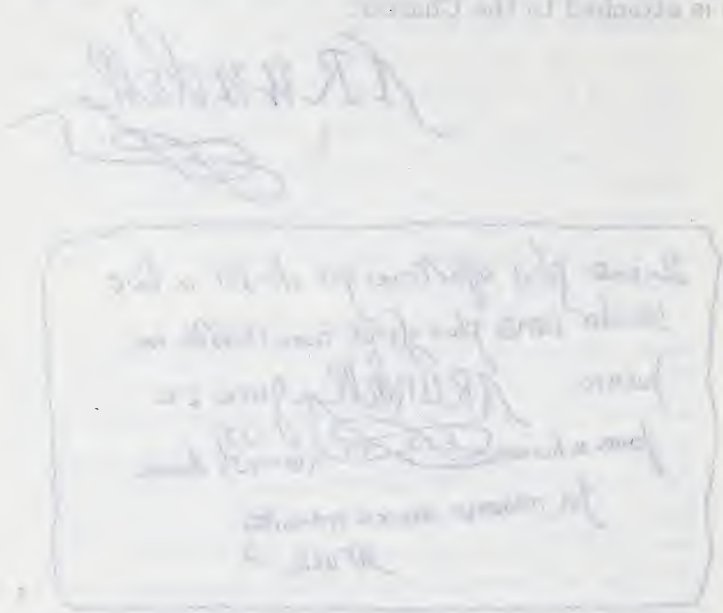


Davies also in his MS. gives an accurate transcript of the same signature. The Crown took possession of his lands, and in 1603 James I. granted by letters patent "the Lordship, Manor, and Castle of Oswestrie" to Philip's half-brother Thomas Howard, Earl of Suffolk, one of the Captains in the fleet which defeated the Armada, and to him John Davies dedicated his History "from his poore house at Middleton, near Oswestry, 15th Dec., 1635."

The Earl of Suffolk sold "all that Lordship, manor, and Castle of Oswestrie, alias Oswester," to Dame Elizabeth Craven, from whom it passed by descent to William Herbert, second Marquess of Powis, and hence through the female line to the present Earl of Powis, who is therefore Lord of the Manor of Oswestry.[2]

[1] The second signature is a facsimile of the inscription in the Tower.

[2] S. A. *Trans.*, Records of Corp. of Oswestry, vol. vii., p. 53.



We have now arrived at the last scene of our story. Complaint had been made by the Earl of Arundel seventy years before that "The walls of the town were in ruins," and the suburbs had been long ago extended beyond their narrow boundary, but the four gates were still in existence and the Castle was a formidable fortification. This is not the place, even if there were time, to enter into the merits of the quarrel between Charles I. and his people. War is at all times an evil, and when the strife is between kindred and friends its horrors are intensified. On 25th August, 1642, the King's standard was erected at Nottingham, "about six o clock in the evening of a very stormye and tempestuous day." On all sides preparations were made for the coming struggle. Wales, as a whole, was loyal to the King, Shropshire was divided; neutrality was impossible. To quote from Mr. Stanley Leighton's Records of the Corporation of Oswestry—"In the immediate neighbourhood of Oswestry the families which took the side of the Parliament were the Myddeltons of Chirk Castle, the Myttons of Halston, the Lloyds of Aston, the Powells of Park, the Bakers of Sweeney, and the Evanses of Trevelach. On the King's side were the Lloyds of Llanforda and Llwynymaen, and the Owens of Brogyntyn." Early in 1643 we are told "the lord Capelle [who had been nominated the Royalist Lieutenant-General of Shropshire, Cheshire, and North Wales,] "went lately to Oswestrie with 1000 horse and dragoones to fortifie the towne and told the inhabitants that it must be entrenched and strengthened, because he heard that some rebels were coming from London into that country." In 1577 it had been found that there were "voluntarie breaches by reason of sundrie dores made through the said walles,"[1] and no doubt the walls had fallen into decay. Gough in his *History of Myddle* says—"The Governor of the Towne when it was a garrison for the King pulled down many houses that were without the

[1] S. A. *Trans.*, vol. viii., p. 169.

wall lest they might shelter an enemy. The Church also being without the Wall was pulled downe and the toppe of the steeple unto that loft where the bell frame stood. The bells were brought into the Towne and the Organs were embezzled." Gough probably exaggerates the harm done to the Church, but no doubt the Royalist Governor did considerable havoc to the structure. The Terrier of Church property of 1685 states—"Besides the churchyard there are joyned to it two little platts of ground belonging to the Vicar with a pool between them. On the one of these two platts of ground formerly stood a vicarage house, which was burnt and demolished to the ground under late wars; vidt. in the year of our Lord 1644 or thereabouts, when the Church was pulled down and many buildings burnt upon the account of a siege laid to the same town, being then a garrison."

That must have been a troublous autumn for Oswestrians, the Castle crowded with soldiers not always too particular as to "meum and tuum," for at Shrewsbury "they were conducting themselves with great swagger, resorting to violence wherever their exaggerated demands were not complied with, the country around suffered immensely, the soldiers were not regularly paid, and had to look out for food and forage." And again, "The soldiers could with difficulty be kept from breaking out into open mutiny because of their irregular payments, and they were left much to help themselves which they did by an indiscriminate sacking and plundering of houses — indifferent whether the houses belonged to friends or foes." This is no doubt a picture of what happened in Oswestry, while the destruction of the Church and the houses outside the walls and the consequent crowding of the town must have caused much suffering. The King's hopes were centred in the western shires and Wales. A crisis had arrived in the history of the war. Prince Rupert had been appointed "President of Wales," and was making a desperate effort, with the assistance of a large body of Irish, to subdue the rebellion in Wales, and to recruit the

Royalist forces there, and he had won the battle of Newark and had returned to Shrewsbury and Chester, where great rejoicings had taken place, and the Parliamentarians were much discouraged. Earnest representations were made to headquarters in London that aid should be sent to Shropshire and Cheshire. On the other side the Parliament was no less active; on 11th June, 1643, it appointed Sir Thomas Myddelton, of Chirk Castle, to be Sergeant-Major General for the six counties of North Wales, and the Earl of Denbigh Lieutenant-General for Stafford, Cheshire, and Salop. Myddelton was nephew of the celebrated Sir Hugh Myddelton (himself a burgess of Oswestry) who brought the New River to London, and, I may add, was the donor of the oldest and most valuable piece of plate in the possession of the Corporation of Oswestry. He endeavoured to gather recruits in London, although with slow progress, but in the meantime the friends of the Parliament were not idle in Shropshire. "The life and soul of the Parliamentary side was Thomas Mytton of Halston, brother-in-law to Myddelton. He was above all others instrumental in keeping together the friends of the Parliament in Salop, and in neutralizing in a great measure the influence of the Royalists there. His superlative ability as a military commander, his unswerving fidelity to the Parliament, and his eminent humanity to his enemies, place him in a more favourable light than any man in Wales or the borders who took sword in hand during that terrible struggle."[1] In August of 1643 Myddelton reached Shropshire from London with seven great pieces of ordnance, four cases of projectiles and 40 carriages of ammunition. On Tuesday, 11th September, Wem was captured from the Royalists and became the Parliamentary headquarters for Salop. Lord Capell with his army, 4,000 strong, attacked Mytton, who had only 300 men, but he re-

[1] Phill. *Civil War*, vol. i., p. 160.

pelled the attack with the invaluable aid of the women of Wem, so that it was said

> The women of Wem and a few musketeers
> Beat the Lord Capell and all his cavaliers.

Roundhead rhyme was somewhat hard upon Lord Capell, for it had been previously said of him

> The Lord Capell with a thousand and a half
> Came to Barton Cross and there they killed a calf;
> And staying there until the break of day,
> They took to their heels and fast they ran away.

Poor Lord Capell! Some time afterwards he was captured by the Parliament and beheaded in London, and the sword he wore on that day is preserved at Brogyntyn. An attempt was first made to capture Oswestry by stratagem, and *Mercurius Aulicus* of Tuesday, February 16th, 1644, describes the stratagem thus—"These worthy Rebels at Wemme this last weeke had a plot upon the Towne of Oswaldstree ten miles from Wemme. The contrivance was layd thus—the Governour of Oswaldstree Colonell Lloyd was to be invited to dinner to a gentleman's house, where he would have been surprized by forces from Wemme, who resolved instantly upon the surprize to carry him before his owne garrison and there force him to have caused his Officers to deliver up the Towne. To prosecute this plot the Rebells of Wemme were already upon their March, but two of their Scouts being happily taken, the Treachery was confessed and discovered to the Governour, who suddenly returned home, and secured the Towne, the confident Rebells being forced to returne to the place from whence they came." Col. Lloyd was a descendant of the Crusader Lloyd, and one of the Lloyds of Llwynymaen, and is described by Pennant as being of a "convivial turn;" his carelessness however, got known and Sir Absett Shipman was appointed Governor in his stead. Col. Lloyd died 13 February, 1662, and was buried in the Llanforda vault on the north aisle of Oswestry Church, with this inscription on a flat stone—

Temporibus diris pietas regique Deoque
Immota hac terra jam tumulata.
One who then durst be loyal just and wise
When all were out of countenance here lies.

His wife Frances Lloyd, who died 15th December, 1661, is buried in the same vault, with this inscription—

Wise bove her sexe with peril of her life
A loyal subject and a loving wife
Her God and King restorde her heart run 'ore
More than brimfull with joy could hold no more.

In after years Edward Lloyd, son of this Col. Lloyd, petitioned first of all the Parliament, and afterwards King Charles II. for relief, and in the Lloyd MSS. (the property of Mr. Stanley Leighton), he sets forth to the Parliament "That he was formerly seised in fee of certain houses in Oswestrie burnt down by Colonell Mitton in safety to the garrison to the damage of 2,000*li*," so that now "there remains only waste ground," and he prays this may be taken into account when his fine should be imposed. He wrote "The true narrative of Captain Edward Lloyd's actions and sufferings, how he gave his ma'tie all his plate and raised a Troope of Dragoons and armed them at his own charge, advancing likewise a month's pay to every soldier out of his own purse," how he sustained "frequent imprisonment, at least a dozen times; nor did their malice only rest on him, but extended itselfe to all his relations, his wife was likewise questioned for her life and hardlie escaped, a friend of hers hanged and a maid servant whipt to death for their fidelitie to his ma'tie in endeavouring to restore the garrison of Oswaldstre to their prestine loyalty," and he estimates his losses at £8,030 14s. 6d. After all his troubles, this Edward Lloyd was buried in the family vault in the Oswestry Parish Church in 1686.

To return, Cathrall in his *History of Oswestry* states that Fairfax and Mytton made an attempt to seize Oswestry by surprise, which Prince Rupert repulsed, but I find upon comparison of the records that this is a mistake, and that the repulse (derived from a chance

note in Pennant) took place in Cheshire, and not at Oswestry. But Oswestry did not long remain free from attack.

Mytton was ever on the watch for a favourable opportunity to seize the town when the garrison should be reduced, and it is clear the Royalist leaders were no match for him in audacity. Prince Rupert was now in Chester, and was much in need of ammunition. Mytton was at Wem, where the Parliamentary Committee for Shropshire had their head quarters. An arrangement had been made to send a large convoy of ammunition from Oswestry Castle to Prince Rupert at Chester. The latter was gathering his forces for the campaign, which was to end in three weeks in the disastrous defeat of Marston Moor. The Parliamentary leaders realised the importance of preventing reinforcements passing from Shrewsbury to Chester. Chirk village, on the direct route from Oswestry to Chester, was in the hands of the Parliament, although its Castle was still held by the Royalists. Therefore the convoy had to make a detour from Oswestry through Preeshenlle, St. Martins, and Bangor Iscoed. Through the kindness of the present Earl of Denbigh I have been enabled to obtain copies of the original correspondence. Mytton, who was ubiquitous, determined to waylay the convoy, and although he did not succeed in doing so, yet encountered a party of dragoons on their way from Oswestry to Chester. The following is his graphic description of the encounter. I may add that in Phillips's *Civil War*, vol. ii., p. 173, there appears another account by Mytton of the same event taken from "Two Great Victories," King's Pamphlets 163-3, but the letter I copy is his private report, and contains several additional particulars, and has never been published.

Wem 20 of June, 1644.

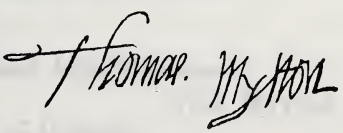
RIGHT HONO'BLE

I came hither about eleven of the clocke at night that daie I parted with yo^{r} honor I had not beene in bed one quarter of an hower till intelligence came to me that there was am-

munition the next daie to goe from Oswestree towards P. Rupert whereupon I drew out all that poore strength could be spared both of horse and foote intending either to surprize it or to keepe it in towne till yo^{r} honor did send further strength to enable us to take the towne. When I came to the place where I had appointed a messenger to meete me to give me notice what time they set out with their carriages who told me that there was gone out of Oswestree yesterdaie morninge a partie to fetch it to that towne, they not adventuringe to come on this side the river but thorough Wales. I have sent divers waies to have intelligence of the goinge of it; I do not heare that it is gone past, I expect to heare everie hower; the comainders thought fitte to retreate higher last night, beinge not assured whether yo^{r} honor would send to our reliefe or no. At the place where I appointed the messenger to meet me, being there with the horse, the foote being 2 miles behinde we tooke 2 of Maior Sacheverell's troopers who informed me that a lieutenant with 20 musquetiers was gone past us about a mile, whereupon I tooke some 25 troopers and about as manie dragoones after. I went as fast as I could, when we came in sight of them our dragoones alighted to charge them in the reare, they beinge not aware of us, but one of our troopers discharged a pistoll by what meanes I know not and gave them an allarme, we had no waie but to charge them presentlie with our 25 horse who went on verie resolutlie though in a verie disadvantageous place for the horse in respect of the enclosures they were in, being in wood grounds and verie manie hedges, and instead of 20 we found 54 whereof after a few shot they made at us we tooke between 20 and 30 besides 2 or 3 slaine. There is an other letter I writ bearer which I rest w^{h} y^{r} honor, whereby y^{r} honor maie see what is further intended if yo^{r} honor countermand it not,

I rest as ever

Yo^{r} honor^{s} most faithfull servant



My lord I beseech yo^{r} honor to excuse me in desiringe yo^{r} comaunds that the inclosed maie be so.

To the right honble the Earle of Denbigh Generall of these associated counties humblie present.

Mytton had not captured the ammunition, but had learnt from his prisoners of the weakness of the garrison

at Oswestry, although (perhaps by design) they had misled him, as the garrison was much stronger than he was led to believe. The capture of the ammunition was of little moment, as it appeared probable the town itself would be taken by a sudden dash. The same night on which he had sent the letter I have given he writes another, the handwriting of which shows the haste with which it was written. It is as follows, and is also unpublished :—

Wem 20 of June 1644 11 at night.

Right Hono'ble

I have certaine intelligence . . . now come that there is but 60 foote left in Oswestrie and am desired by divers in the neiborhood to take it in, the am'unition is gone past this eveninge it is but a verie little as I heare, I am now goinge to take some of my Tenants that are sum'oned to give . . . . at Shrewsberie. I got w'hn 2 miles of that towne. My Lord I know you are engaged with yo^{r} forces another waie, for foote in my poore opinion you cannot want to goe against the prince. If yo^{r} lordship will be pleased to lend me 300 foote, and 300 horse I doubt not by God's leave, but to take the towne and hould it and this place also with P. R. volens; and to send yo^{r} horse backe to you before you joine with Cheshire. I desired 200 musquets of yo^{r} honor if you please to let me have 300 I doubt not but to raise men speedilie. If yo^{r} honor be pleased to condiscend hereunto, I humblie desire that they with all speed advance not loosinge one hower's time, all which I refer to yo^{r} honors consideration beinge a matter of verie greate consequence; it blocketh up the waie between Cheshire and Shrewsberie and all North Wales. If I have a petard I should hope to take it presentlie, however it is not like that we shall ever finde it so weake again.

I rest
my lord
Yo^{r} honor^{s} most faithfull servant

Tho. Mytton.

To the right honoble the Earle of Denbigh
my most humble service present.

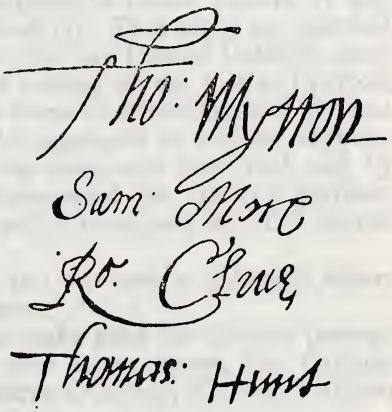
The letter was accompanied by a formal application from the Parliamentary Committee for Shropshire, also unpublished.

Right ho'ble

In regard wee have noe certayne intelligence that ye magazine is yet passed Oswestery wee humbly desire y^t yo^r Lor^p would continue yo^r resolutio^n to send yo^r horse and foote towards us (although Coll. Mytton bee returned to Wemme). Wee have sent out for intelligence concerninge that designe, and expect betimes this night, that o^r intelligence come to give us certayne informatio' yf it bee not already passed, wee are resolved to fall upon y^e Towne, w'ch yf wee take (as wee doubt not but through Gods assistance wee may) wee are sure either to take y^e magazine, or els to stopp it from ever goeinge neerer y^e Prince, w'ch we hope will growe of great concernment. Wee have sent some Comaunders to attend yo^r horse, and to take care that they may bee quartered w^th conveniency this night. With y^e tender of o^r humblest service wee rest

Right ho^ble
Yo^r Lo'ps most
humble servants

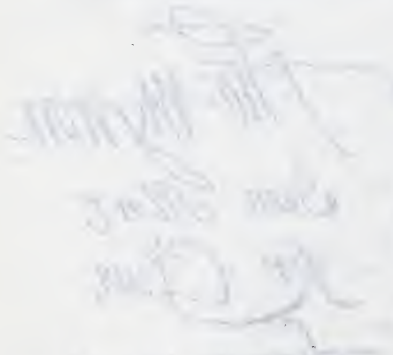
Wem June 20.



For y^e right ho^ble Basill Earle of Denbigh Generall of all the forces within y^e Counties of Warwick Worcest^r Salopp and Stafford these humbly present.

The four signatories with Andrew Lloyd of Aston, formed the Parliamentary Committee for Shropshire. "Sam. More" was "More of Linley," "Ro. Clive" (of Styche), was a direct lineal ancestor of the present Earl of Powis, and "Thomas Hunt" was M.P. for Shrewsbury in the Parliament of the Commonwealth. The names of several generations of the family of Hunts of Boreatton appear as Trustees of the Old Chapel,[1] Oswestry (Congregational). Lord Denbigh listened to Mytton's appeal and resolved that together they would

[1] S. A. *Trans.*, vol. iv., p. 171.



surprise the town without waiting for reinforcements, and with but 200 foot and "my lords horse" they marched through Wem and Ellesmere. At 12 o'clock on Saturday, 23rd June, they came within sight of the town. The following letter, which I take from Phillips's *Civil War in the Marches*, gives a graphic account of the assault.

Now followeth other Letters from the Earl of Denbigh's quarters, of the particulars of the Victory at Oswestry :—

SIR,

I desire you to join with us and for us in praises to God, who hath done great things for us and by us.

Upon Thursday last we came out of Stafford, horse and foot, to intercept some ammunition going to Prince Rupert, by way of Wales, over the river Gomerah (?) That night we marched not far by reason of great rain ; but my Lord of Denbigh, early the next day, got to horse, and leaving all our foot at Drayton, we marched to Wem, and our horse to Ellesmere, and 200 foot and a troop of horse under the command of Colonel Mytton. Early next day we overtook our horse and those foot, and by 12 o'clock on Saturday, we beleagured the enemy's garrison town of Oswestry, which is a walled town, and in it the church well manned, and the castle.

They gave us a hot salute, and our men as gallantly entertained it and returned an answer.

Captain Keme undertook to make good the Chester passage and the Chirk Castle road with these troops, viz., Captain Keme's own troop, Colonel Barton's, Captain Noakes's, Captain Tompson's, and Captain Broother's.

Captain Keme immediately fixed his guards and sent out parties into the mountains and scouts everyway, who returned with news of one Colonel Marrow's appearing with a body of horse, but they never came up, though expected.

My Lord's horse, commanded by Major Frazer, had the guard of the Shrewsbury road and Morton. Our foot made an onslaught on the church, being but 200, and after half an hour's sore fight entered the church. The enemy fled into the steeple, thence they fetched them down with powder. There we took 27 prisoners. Then we brought up a sacre to the gate through the suburbs, and a party of horse was called off the guards, both of my Lord's and ours, and my Lord's life-guard. We shot the gate through at two shots, and they fired

from the gate at our men. But one of our shot striking a woman's bowels out, and wounding two or three, put them in fear, that they betook themselves to the castle. We forced open the gates, and the horse entered resolutely, and by three o'clock were possessed of the town—as good a piece of service (God have all praise) as this year hath produced. My Lord himself entered the town, with the horse, neglecting thoughts of his own safety. Our men minded not the plundering of the town (which was their right in taking it in this way), but followed us to the castle, where they fiercely fired upon us—every way being well manned. We made some shot with the great sacre, but they took little effect.

Only some timorous men got over the walls, one broke his arm falling, others, Captain Keme's horse lighted upon and took them prisoners. Captain Keme sent my Lord from his guard 14 prisoners into the town, besides one Captain, which his scout took by Chirk Castle, with his commission under his Majesty's hand, and sent it to my Lord also.

My Lord at night called a Council of War, and ordered a strong guard, and designed a party of troopers to venture to fire the castle gates with pitch, but our men wearied out slipped the opportunity. My Lord, by break of day waking, came to Captain Keme in the same house with him, and designed him to go forward with the design; but on his way there met him a party of women of all sorts down on their knees confounding him with their Welsh howlings, that he was fain to get an interpreter, which was to beseech me to entreat my Lord, before he blew up the Castle, they might go up and speak to their husbands, children, and the officers, which he moved, and my Lord condescended to, so that Captain Keme might go with them and a trumpet, which he did courageously, and carried this message. Then my Lord, to avoid the effusion of blood, offered them mercy, if they would accept of it, whereupon they threw down this paper:—

To the Right Honourable the Earl of Denbigh.

Propositions propounded by us for the delivering up of the Castle of Oswestry:

First, to march away with our arms, bag and baggage, officers and soldiers, and all other persons whatsoever being in the said Castle, and

Secondly, that we, the said officers, and all other persons whatsoever, being within the said Castle, may be guarded

through your quarters to Montford Bridge, or quietly to abide in our own habitations.

Thirdly, that we may march out of the said Castle, over the said bridge with our muskets charged, lighted matches, and balls in our mouths.

These propositions being granted, the Castle shall be delivered by the officers subscribed.

JOHN BIRDWELL, Lieutenant-Colonel.
JOHN WARREN, Captain.
NICHS. HOOKS, Lieutenant.
THOMAS DAVENPORT, Lieutenant.
HUGH LLOYD, Ancient.
LEWIS MORGAN, Ancient.

Capt. Keme returned leaving the women. My Lord refused to condescend. At last the women prevailed, and cried to me to come up. Then the two brave champions, Colonel Mytton and Captain Keme, went up, and they said they would repose themselves on such quarters as my Lord would sign to, which was their lives only.

So they marched out, and we found 100 good muskets, besides others stolen away, eight halberts and officers to them, one barrel of powder and suitable match, many swords, and some few pistols, 20 gentlemen of Wales and Shropshire, divers officers, and 200 prisoners, besides what were lost.

Immediately (it being the Lord's day) my Lord called away all to go to Church to praise God, which was done, and our dead buried.

In all this service we had but two slain and one horse, and but four wounded, blessed be God.

This town is of great concernment. We had a Council of War at 10 o'clock, at which my Lord-General (the Earl of Denbigh) made Colonel Mytton Governor of Oswestry. And we have resolved upon a great design, which is to join with the Cheshire Forces, where Sir Thomas Myddelton is now at Nantwich, and hath been there four days, and go against Prince Rupert into Lancashire. I pray commend us especially now in your constant prayers to the Lord. Be doing as well as we; and praise God for his miraculous love by us a poor weak army.

This day my Lord received thanks from the Committee of both Kingdoms for the last service at Tipton Green. It is a sad sight to behold the ignorance of these Welsh in these parts, and how they are enslaved to serve. We shall leave a garrison

here and Colonel Mytton, and march to our foot on Wednesday next with our body of horse. Colonel Fox is with us here; our men fetched in 300 cows and salt runts of the mountains, and sell good pennyworths. This town to avoid plundering are to give 500 pounds to the soldiers.[1]

List of Prisoners taken at Oswestry.

Lieut.-Col. Bledwyn
Sir Abraham Shipman, the Governor then at Shrewsbury
Capt. John Farrell
Capt. John Madrin
Capt. Thomas Tenet
Capt. Phillips
Lieut. Nicholas Hooke
Lieut. Richard Franklin
Lieut. Davenport
Cornet Leonard
Cornet Lloyd
Ensign Morgan
Ensign Wynne
Commissary Richard Edwards, with nine sergeants, nine corporals, one drum-major, 305 common soldiers, eighty townsmen in arms. Also 200 muskets, 100 pikes, and other weapons, and forty-five barrels of powder.[2]

This is the official account of the capture of the Castle, but it is supplemented from other sources, and variations occur which are somewhat difficult to reconcile. It is clear that while a guard was left at the Beatrice Street entrance to the town the main body under Lord Denbigh made a detour near the site of the Cambrian Railway Station, round the Walls to the opposite end of the town, and attacked the Parish Church, which was outside the walls and occupied by the Royalists as an outwork. Here the battle began, and the Royalist forces were probably taken by surprise, not expecting so daring an attack

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[1] From a pamphlet, entitled "Two Great Victories: one obtained by the Earl of Denbigh at Oswestry, &c., certified by letters from the Earl of Denbigh's quarters; the other victory by Colonel Mitton, with a list of the prisoners by him taken. Pub. according to order. London: Printed by T. Coe, 1644." (K. P. 163—3).

[2] *The Kingdom's Weekly Intelligencer*, No. 61, p. 490.

with such small numbers, and having evidently not occupied the Church in force. The Church being captured, the next line of defence was the walls, and the garrison retreated to the New Gate in Church Street, opposite to the present Post Office, where the Gate was "shot through," but Gough in his *History of Myddle* gives an additional incident which happened here. He tells us that the assailants were not certain that the gate was free, and so "sent George Cranage, a bold and daring young man, to see whether it were soe, who tooke a hatchett in his hand and went to the drawbridge and found that the soldiers were gone and the gate was open, for the Cannon had broken the doors and this Cranage broake the chaines of the drawbridge with his hatchett and lett downe soe that the soldiers made haste to enter the towne. Butt those that were within made like haste to meet them, which Cranage perceiving and seeing a box of drakes standing within the gate ready charged, hee turned the box of drakes towards those in the towne, and one of Cranage's partners came with a firelocke and gave fire to them, which made such a slaughter among the Garrison soldiers, and they retreated and fled unto the Castle." The Royalist forces rushed down Church Street, hotly pursued by the Parliamentarians. It is clear that some of the garrison instead of retreating up Bailey Street into the Castle, endeavoured to escape down Beatrice Street and over the walls, and then was seen the wisdom of the precaution taken to guard the Chirk road at the Beatrice entrance to the town. No doubt it was here that the "timorous men got over the walls." The remainder of the garrison got safely into the Castle, and from the walls could watch the Parliamentary forces dragging the "great sacre" somewhere near the site of the Old British School. The "great sacre" was unavailing, the walls were too strong; a formal siege was impossible, as the Royalist forces from Chester and the neighbourhood far outnumbering the besiegers, would soon raise

the siege. Colonel Marrow, who had mysteriously disappeared from the scene, was hovering somewhere near with his troop of horse, and Shrewsbury occupied by a large Royalist garrison was only 18 miles away.

It was therefore clear that some daring deed should be undertaken. Gough gives us an incident not found in the official report. Cranage being, we are told, "well rewarded and well lined with sacke was persuaded by the Generall to hang a buttar on the Castle gate. Now a buttar is an iron shell as bigge as a pott, it was filled with powder and wildfire balls, and had an handle with an hole in it, by which it might be fastened with a nayl to any place. Cranage takes this buttar with a cart nayl and a hammer and got from house to house into the house next the Castle, and then stepping to the Castle gate hee fixed the buttar and stepping nimbly backe again escaped without any hurt the buttar burst open the gate." Gough quaintly ends, "I have beene the longer in speaking of George Cranage because that after the Warr was ended hee came to live some while at the Red Bull, and afterwards at Newton on the Hill, where he was tenant to Thomas Newans. Hee was a painfull laborious man in husbandry, and although he was a stout man of his hands, yett he was peaceable and a good neighbor. Hee went to live againe att the Red Bull, and there his wife dyed, and then he married Dorothy, the daughter of Richard Plumger, and there hee dyed."

The capture of Oswestry was a great blow to the Royalist party. Efforts were made to explain it, and *Mercurius Aulicus* of Tuesday, July 9th, 1644, reporting Lord Denbigh's ill success at Shrewsbury, says "where he came with much confidence (being full of his late success at Oswaldstree which Towne he crept into when the Governor Sir Abraham Shipman was gone to Shrewsbury for convoy of some Prisoners)." The joyful news was at once sent to London, and both Houses voted their thanks. The following copy of the vote is also extracted from Lord Denbigh's papers, and is unpublished.

Die Veneris 28 Junii 1644.

L're from the Earle of Denbigh from Oswalstree of June the 24 concerning the taking of the said Towne and Castle of Oswalstree w^th^ a List of Armes and Prisoners, the Prisoners that were taken being as many or more than those that took them the Towne and Castle.

Resolved &c. that a thousand pounds in money and 600 paire of pistolls shall be forwarded provided and sent downe to y^e^ Earle of Denbigh upon Accompt for the pay and arming his forces and that it be referred to the Committee for Shropshire to take care for provyding for these Armes and money, and to make Report on Monday morning next.

Ordered that M^r^ Serjeant doe p'pare a L're to be sent to the Earle of Denbighe from both Howses in acknowledgmt of the great and good services done by Colonell Mitton. and likewise to acknowledge and take notice of others in the said L're.

Ordered that the first 200^li^ that shal bee discovered to the Committee for examina'cons and come to their knowledge and w'hn their power of disposall shall be paid unto the wife of Colonell Mitton for releif of her, her children and famyly.

Ordered that y^e^ Executor^s^ of M^r^ Oxenbridge Merchant who dyed at . . . . . and bequathed 1000^li^ by his last will to y^e^ Parlyam^t^ to be disposed of by them for the Service of the publique bee forthw^h^ payd unto y^e^ hands of M^r^ Spurston upon accompt 500^li^ for Col. Mitton for the service of Shropshire.

H. Byng Cler.

Parl. D. Com^r^.

It is clear that the taking of Oswestry was considered of the greatest importance, and the following interesting letter (also unpublished) from Philip Lord Wharton to his friend Lord Denbigh testifies to the joy with which the news was received. Lord Wharton is often mentioned in Carlyle's *Life and Letters of Cromwell*, and is described as a "Zealous Puritan much concerned with preachers, chaplains, &c., in his domestic establishment, and full of Parliamentary and politico-religious business in public. He led a regiment of his own raising at Edgehill, and lived to be a Privy Counsellor to William of Orange. He died in 1696." (Carlyle, vol. ii., p. 40).

For the Earle of Denbigh.

My L^{d}

The considerable service donne in taking in of Oswaldstree is not onley a g^{t} comfort to mee amongst all other well affected as itt relates to the publique good, butt in particular worked very much upon my affections as beeing acted by a person I soe much honor. My Lord, I shall not enlarge myself in my apprehensions of this service, both howses and the Committee of both Kingdomes having directed theire acknowledgements thereof and thanks to your L'd'p for the same.

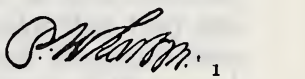
My Lord heere is very little of extraordinary come to our hands of late. Maior Generall Browne is advanced towards S^{r} Will. Waller with 3 regiments of cytty Auxiliaryes, and Coll. Norton's Horse. The rebbells army are plundering upon the confines of my L^{d} Manchester's Association, hath missed all theyr trayne bands; and very g^{t} bodys of 3000 and more are in Hartford, and as many in Cambridge, and wee are in hope may bee prevayled with to joyne with Browne with some considerable numbers.

Some letters have lately beene sent from my L^{d} of Essex which have begotten an answere from the Commons howse heere enclosed. The Lords doe not seeme to concurre with itt, though itt bee nott yett determined. Thatt ordinance (which hath soe long depended concerning the exclusion of the members whoe have diserted the Post) is this day passed according to the immediate desire of the Commons howse.

My L^{d} I am

Your most faythfull and
most obliged servant

29^{o} June 1644.



[1]

The Royalists were not willing to let Oswestry remain in the occupation of the Parliamentarians without a struggle. Lord Denbigh was, however, wide awake. He writes to the Committees of both Kingdoms as follows:—

My Lords and Gentlemen

Upon my march to the rendevous at Knotsford to follow those commands you have laid upon me, Coll^{ll} Mytton hath

[1] The handwriting is extremely difficult to read, and therefore the rendering is conjectural in several places.

sent me word of the enemies' gathering into a great body in Wales, Shrewsbury, and Chester to regaine Oswaldstre. Upon my leaving that place I ordered a good quantity of ammunition and three companies of S^r^ W. Middleton's to be sent to reinforce that garrison, w^ch^ by my horse weare safely convaid into the towne, so that now there are neare upon 400 musquetteers fitted with all necessaries, and a good ingenier to secure that garrison, and a full troope of horse, yett in regard the enemy is now emptying all their garrisons and will venture all rather than not recover that place w^ch^ they conceave to bee of so great concernment to their affairs, I shall humbly beseech your lo^ps^ to order that some forces may undertake the reliefe and defence of these parts in my absence, and that whilst I am executing your lo^rs^ commands in other places my honour may not suffer, nor the advantages be lost where a more immediate charge and trust is conferred upon me. This I thought fitt to represent to your lo^ps^ wisdome, and remaine,

My Lords and Gentlemen,

Your most humble and

Wem, affectionate servant,

27 June, 1644. B. DENBIGH.[1]

But before relief could come the Royalist attack was made. Lord Denbigh had left for Manchester to seek aid. In a letter of 26th June, 1644, from Nantwich, Lord Denbigh says—"My regiment of foot and Sir Thomas Myddelton's are grown so weake that they are not able to guard theire colours, and therefore wee thought fitt to leave them for the defence of Wem and Oswaldstre."[2] On the following Saturday Sir Fulk Hunkes, Governor of Shrewsbury, resolved to take advantage of Lord Denbigh's absence, and with overwhelming forces to recapture the town. He marched from Shrewsbury to Oswestry with Colonel Marrow, who had now found his troop, at the head of 1,500 horse and 3,500 foot. The Royalists consisted, as Myddelton tells us, of "the most valiant commanders

[1] State Papers Dom., Charles I. Bundle 316, fol. 109. From Phillips's *Civil War*, vol. ii., p. 177.

[2] Phillips's *Civil War*, vol. ii., p. 178.

and soldiers drawn out of the garrisons of Chester, Cheshire, Shrewsbury, Shropshire, Ludlow, Derbyshire, and Flintshire, and other places."

They were not so quick in their movements as the Parliamentarians had been, for a messenger had arrived post haste to Myddelton with "an earnest and importunate letter from Col. Mytton the Governor," and on the "Lords day last past" Myddelton advanced by forced marches from Spurstow in Cheshire, towards Whitchurch and Ellesmere, and so on to Whittington—50 miles in two days—encamping in the fields on the way, arriving at two o'clock on the Tuesday afternoon. Here they could see past Old Oswestry the smoke of the cannon outside the town, "where the enemy endeavoured by battery and storming violently to have carried it." The siege had lasted for three days, but still Colonel Mytton held out. The Royalists had captured the Church, and no doubt anticipated a speedy victory. Hunkes heard of the approach of the relief, and according to his own account to Prince Rupert, "commanded Colonell Marrow to send out a party of horse to discover their strength, but expressly forbad him to engage himself, yet contrarie to my knowledge or direction he took with him the whole bodie of horse." The following letters give the Parliamentarian and Royalist accounts of the encounter. They are taken from the invaluable Appendix to Phillips's *Civil War*, vol. ii.

Sir Thomas Myddelton's Account.

To the Honourable William Lenthal, Esquire, Speaker of the House of Commons.

HONOURED SIR,

Not to trouble you with vain relations whereby to hinder the other serious employment for the Kingdom's good, may it please you to be advertised that the Town of Oswestry, late taken by the forces of Parliament, under my brother, Col. Mytton's command, was upon Saturday last begun to be begirt, and since strictly besieged by the King's forces, consisting of about 1,500 horse and 3,500 foot, under the command of Col. Marrow. And that thereupon, in pursuance of a Council of

and soldiers drawn out of the garrisons of Chester, Chirke, [illegible], [illegible], Ruthin, Denbigh, and Flintshire, and other places."

They were not so quick in their movements as the Parliamentarians had been, for a messenger, "of special post haste" to Myddleton with "command to [illegible] [illegible] letter from Col. Mytton, the Governor," and on the "Lord's day last past" Myddleton [illegible] marched from [illegible] to [illegible], towards Whitchurch and Ellesmere, and so on to Wrexham—[illegible] miles in one day—lying in the fields on the way, arriving at two o'clock on the Tuesday afternoon. How they could [illegible] Old [illegible] Castle [illegible] outside the town, "where the enemy [illegible] by battery and [illegible] valiantly to have carried it." The siege had lasted for three days, but still [illegible] Mytton held out. The Royalists had [illegible] and no doubt [illegible]. Hearing of the approach of [illegible], and according to his own account [illegible] Colonel Marrow, to send him a party of horse [illegible] strength, but [illegible] yet contrary to my knowledge [illegible] with him the whole body of horse." The following letters give the Parliamentarian and Royalist accounts of the encounter. They are taken from the invaluable Appendix to Phillips's *Civil War*, vol. ii.

Sir Thomas Myddelton's Account.

To the Honourable William Lenthal, Esquire, Speaker of the House of Commons.

Honoured Sir,

Not to trouble you with [illegible] relating [illegible] the other [illegible] for the Kingdom's good, may it please you to be advertised that [illegible] Oswestry [illegible] Mytton's command [illegible] and were [illegible] by the King's forces, consisting of about 2,000 horse and [illegible] foot, under the command of Col. Marrow. And that [illegible]

War's determination, occasioned by an earnest and importunate letter from my brother, Col. Mytton, directed to me for speedy relief and raising of the siege of the said town, I did upon the Lord's day last past, with such forces of horse and foot as I then had with me, and the foot forces of Cheshire, all of us then at Knutsford (intending to have marched for Manchester, and then for the service in the north, according to enjoinment of the Committee of both Kingdoms), return and readvance with all my said forces unto a place called Spurstow Heath, where that night we quartered, and thence advanced upon Monday towards Whitchurch. We quartered that night likewise in the open fields, at a place called the Fens, in Flintshire, whence yesterday we marched towards Ellesmere, and so to Oswestry, where the enemy endeavoured, by battering and storming of the same, violently to have carried it. About two o'clock in the afternoon we came in sight of the town, and within three miles of it, where the enemy having got intelligence of our approach were prepared to receive us. The chief forces of our enemy consisted of the most valiant commanders and soldiers drawn out of the garrisons of Chester, Cheshire, Shrewsbury, Shropshire, Ludlow, Derbyshire, and Flintshire, and other places. The enemy had taken up the passage of water near Whittington, and very furiously assaulted and charged us, but were repulsed, and forced to retire through the courage of our horse, who most courageously entertained the enemy. Three several times the skirmish was doubtful, either side being forced so often to retreat; but in the end, our foot forces coming up relieved the horse, beat back the enemy, and pursued them with such force that the horse, thereby encouraged, which indeed was formerly weary, joining with the foot, they put the enemy to an absolute flight, in which we pursued them five miles towards Shrewsbury, to a place called Felton Heath, and where we remained after their flight again masters of the field.

In the skirmish with the enemy, and in the pursuit, we lost several of our horse, some of our troops, but never a footman which I am yet informed of. Many of the troopers are hurt, but I hope they will recover. I lost one Captain Williams; and one Capt.-Lieut. Fletcher, a very courageous man, being Capt.-Lieut. to Col. Barton, in my brigade, was dangerously shot, but I hope not mortally. As for the enemy, they lost many stout men, had many of them taken prisoners; the number whereof the enclosed will manifest, some of them being of great quality, as the Lord Newport's eldest son. And, besides, such was their haste in their flight, that we found in

the way of our pursuit, the highway, as it were, strewn with store of bread, cheese, bacon, and other good provisions, clothes, and else such necessary appurtenances to an army, besides some whole veals and muttons newly killed. The enemy before the relief came had taken the church, the strongest hold about the town. Upon the approach of the relief they suddenly deserted it, and sent their two battering pieces unto Shrewsbury. In the way also were taken by our forces seven carts and wagons, laden with provisions, such as beer, bread, and other necessaries, and one was laden with powder and other ammunition.

The Town of Oswestry I find to be a very strong town, and if once fortified, of great concernment, and the key that lets us into Wales.

Sir, I had to my aid three regiments of foot, viz., Col. George Boothe's regiment, a gallant regiment, led by himself on foot to the face of the enemy. Another by Col. Mainwaring, and the third by Col. Croxon; all of them stout and gallant commanders, and the rest of the officers and soldiers full of courage and resolution. Major Louthiane, Adjutant-General, that brave and faithful commander, to whom I cannot ascribe too much honour, brought up the rear that day.

Sir, I rest, yours, &c.,

THO. MYDDELTON.

[ENCLOSURE.]

Prisoners taken at Oswestry July 3, 1644.

Francis Newport, heir to the Lord Newport Capt. Swynerton	Captains of a Troop of Horse
Twenty Welsh and Shropshire gentlemen	Two pieces of artillery to come up to the walls to save the Musketeers
One Cornet of Horse, who had no command	Seven carriages, whereof one of powder
Lieut. Nowell	200 common soidiers, most of them Welsh
One Quartermaster	100 horse
Two corporals	Great store of arms found in the corn and ditches.
Thirty-two troopers	

There is since taken Major Manlye[1] and Major Whirney, under the walls of Shrewsbury.[2]

[1] Major Manly was Governor of Bangor, Flintshire.

[2] From a pamphlet, entitled "A Copy of a Letter sent from Sir Thos. Myddelton, &c. London: Printed for Edward Husbands, July 10, 1644." (K. P. 194—16).

Sir Fulke Hunke's Account of it to Prince Rupert.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HIGHNESS,

Upon Tuesday, July the 2d., I was drawn out, with what force I could, to ioyne with Coll. Marrow for the regaining of Oswestrie, where having intelligence of the approach of the enemy, I commanded Collonel Marrow to send out a party of horse to discover their strength, but expressly forbad him to engage himself; yet contrarie to my knowledge or direction, he tooke with him the whole bodie of horse, and engaged himself so farre, that he was routed before I knew anything of it. As soon as I had notice thereof, by a messeng from himself, who desired mee to drawe off, his horse being wholly routed, I put myself in a posture for the security of the cannon, and drawing them off, the first man I mett withal was Marrow all alone. And perceiving that the enemy was like to cutt between us and Shrewsbury, wee drew what strength wee could together, and with small losse made a retreat, and brought off our cannon to Shrewsbury, where wee quartered the remainder of Marrow's troopes. The Thursday following, the enemy advanc'd up to this town, the Lord Denbigh commanding-in-chiefe, thinking to have surprised it out of a confidence of a good partie hee had of the towne; but the outworkes were so well defended, and Marrow falling out with some horse, his Lordship was forced to retire with some losse, and being past over Montford Bridge, hee sett it on fire and retired, dividing his troopes to Oswestry where he tarried not long but borrowed and with his own troopes he went to Cholmondly, which iust now I heare he hath taken. Marrow is now returning to goe about Chirde to seeke to get his horse togither againe This countrie is in a very bad condition, and men are heere very slow in fulfilling your Highnesse commands Heere is very little added to what your Highness left, nor was ever any man amongst so many caterpillars as I am, and see not any possibility to amendment in your Highness absence. I shall most humbly desire your Highness to consider what good intelligence I have whereby I am informed that having taken Cholmondly they intend for Morton Corbet, from thence to Artly, and so to us if they are not prevented. If your Highness doe not cast an eye upon the forces as are here.

The news is better from the King's army from whence wee receive intelligence that his forces have brought off ten pieces of Waller's ordnance and many prisoners with the Generall of the artillery. In this action the Lord Wilmot was taken prisoner, and by the same party that tooke him brought into

the King's guards unknown to them that brought him, whereby they became prisoners themselves, and hee rescued, having only received a slight hurt. S^r^ William Waller who commanded reported to be hurt and retired to Northampton. The King is now at Evesham. . . . . more as to overthrow of the ungratefull Scot.

Your Highness
most humble servant,

Salop, July 10th, 1644. F. HUNKES.[1]

Addressed—ffor his Highness Prince Rupert.

Lord Denbigh had hastily left Manchester and arrived in Oswestry the next day too late to share in the victory. He writes—"If I could have advanced in a convenient time, or the action had bene deferr'd till our forces had been united (w^ch^ the Councill of Warr enclined unto, and the attempt had been put off if the letters sent to give advertisement of my approach had not bene conceal'd) though God was pleased to give great testimonies of his goodnesse and favor in what was done, the victory had been more compleate and in all probability wee had bene masters of their cannon and of theire best men, w^ch^ did belong to the garrison of Shrewsbury and the adjacent parts."[2] There is an Oswestry tradition that the remarkable round stone still to be seen at the foot of St. Oswald's Church Tower is a relic of the siege, and was a cannon ball fired by Cromwell, and that the old chest in the tower was used "by Cromwell to store oats for his horses." The "Weekly Account" shows the interest which the Parliament took in Mytton's success. "I will heere relate the manner of the raising of a far greater siege on our part, for we are this day informed that after the Earl of Denbigh had taken the Towne of Oswestree, left Colonell Mytton Governor, and himself marched into Cheshire, the Welsh and Irish came against it and layed siege thereunto, and

[1] State Papers Dom., 316, fol. 132. A portion of this letter is in cipher, but is translated as given.

[2] State Papers Dom. Chas. I., 316, fol. 120.

upon notice thereof given to the Earl he called a Councell of Warre thereupon, and it was agreed that Sir Thomas Myddelton with a strong party should undertake this siege, which was performed with prudence and valour, keeping the design secret and stopping all intelligence to the enemy, inasmuch that our forces came upon them while they were feasting with their stolne Veall, Lambe, Beefe, Mutton, &c., some of it being hot and ready drest, which by their hasty running away they left behinde, and being pursued he took two hundred prisoners, among which were some captains and other officers and seaven carriages."

With reference to the capture of Lord Newport "Perfect Diurnall" of 10th July, 1644, says—"The new created Lord Newport (alias Sir Richard Newport) having a fine estate and employed it for the raising of forces against the Parliament, the house has thought good to dispose thereof to be employed on the contrary part, it being but equall those which have been at cost to destroy the kingdom should be at the like charge towards the preservation thereof, And therefore have ordered that the estates both of him and his son before mentioned shall be employed for the use of the Parliament forces, and that young Newport shall be brought up to London that his person may be disposed of." I presume it is to the capture of these "seaven carriages" that allusion is made in Owen and Blakeway's quotation from "The Perfect Occurrence of Parliament from May 31st to June 7, 1644," which speaks of—"col. Mitton having taken some carriages that were going from Ossister to Colonel Hunks at Shrewsbury worth 6 or £7000," and another paper (the Scottish Dove) raises the value of this capture of Col. Hunks's treasure to £20,000. "If a colloquial word for a miser be derived from the name of this officer, it adds one more to the numerous instances of the durable effects produced upon language from local and temporary circumstances."[1]

[1] *Hist. of Shrewsbury*, vol. i., 415.

The references to Oswestry Castle during the Commonwealth are but scanty. Mytton remained Governor for a short period, and although a valiant soldier, he did not forget his family ties, and in a fortnight after the Oswestry fight he wrote to his "Deere Harte" as he styles his wife—"I have sent thee hereby a cabinet, and therein some silver grogaram and a payre of silk stockings. I received the hatte you sent;" and he tells her—"I am about to take the children into Oswestrie, Brother Myddelton and myself intend, God willing, to take a voyage into Wales, if the enemy prevent us not by cominge against Oswestry againe."[1] The town was not molested further, however, but must have been left in terrible disorder, garrisoned by hostile soldiers—the Church in ruins, and houses burnt. There are allusions to Oswestry in Mytton's account of his successful fight with Prince Rupert's horse at Welshpool in the same year, and he says that "many of Rupert's Horse disaffected came into Oswestry daily."

Myddelton and Mytton made Oswestry their head quarters that autumn, and from there marched to attack Montgomery Castle, where on 17th September, 1644, the decisive battle took place, by which the power of the Royalists in North Wales was utterly destroyed, 500 cavaliers being killed and between 1,200 and 1,500 taken prisoners. After the battle Colonel Mytton returned to his post at Oswestry. On 30th September, "Red Castle," the seat of Lord Powis, was attacked by Sir Thomas Myddelton and stormed, and Lord Powis was taken by Myddelton a prisoner to Oswestry Castle. On Christmas day of the same year Sir John Watts, the Royalist Governor of Chirk Castle, in a letter preserved at Chirk Castle, wrote to Prince Rupert an account of an unsuccessful attempt by Myddelton to re-capture his own Castle with the help of the Oswestry garrison:—"My stones beate them off; they acknow-

[1] Mytton MS., compiled by Mr. Stanley Leighton in Mont. Coll.

ledged in Oswestry they had 31 slaine and 43 others hurt, theire Engineer was slaine by the Castle side, they are very sadd for him."[1]

On 21st February, 1645, Mytton was still Governor of Oswestry, and with his garrison aided in the capture of Shrewsbury. In September, 1645, King Charles and his few followers wearily marched to and fro near Oswestry from Hereford, Worcester, and Presteign to Newtown, Llanfyllin, and Chirk, and on to Chester, where on 24th September the King saw his only hope defeated on Rowton Heath. Again he had to set out on his hurried journey, and from Chirk the Itinerary tells us—"Monday 29th leaving Oswestree (a garrison of the rebells) on the left hand to Llandisilio and Llandrinio came to Montgomery, where the army lay in the field."[2]

This is the last peep we have at Oswestry Castle as a fortification. In 1647 the Parliament decided that with "some stated exceptions the existing fortifications should be abolished. Walled towns were to be rendered accessible, while actual fortresses were to be so dealt with as to leave not more than picturesque ruins for the enjoyment of future generations. The fewer the defensible fortifications left the less numerous would be the garrison to be kept in pay, and the more difficult would it be to resist the authority of the central government." So the Castle so venerable with its associations disappeared. The late Mr. Charles Sabine, senr., told me that many years ago he was in an old house on the Horse Market, now pulled down (at the foot of the Castle Bank) where an old woman was cutting up sausage meat. He observed that the "board" looked very old, and upon taking it up, saw that there was a representation of the Fitzalan horse upon it. "Where did you get that from?" he said. Replied the old lady, "It is said that it came out of the Castle

[1] Col. Biddulph's *Hist. of Chirk Castle*, p. 18.
[2] Harl. MS., 944.

when it was pulled down." Mr. Sabine purchased the board, and had it placed where I have seen it, at the head of his drawing room mantelpiece at Careglwyd, Oswestry. This, probably, is the only relic of the Castle still in existence, except the few rugged and shapeless stones crowning the hill. The Castle, probably did not disappear all at once. In 1673 the "Bayliffes and Burgesses" petitioned Charles II. for a Charter, and stated that they were "all y^e^ time of y^e^ late intestine warrs very greate sufferers for that having made y^e^ towne a Garrison for your Majestys father it was taken by storme and y^e^ suburbs all burnt and y^e^ walls castle and Church demolished by y^e^ late usurping powers." And finally, according to an old MS. in my possession, upon the renewal of the Charter by Charles II. it was proclaimed "that the swine market will be kept on the hill or voyd place where the Castle is." It is scarcely possible to conceive a degradation so complete. The Municipal Records show that at the beginning of the present century the wall round the Pitcher Bank side of the Castle Bank was built at the cost of the Corporation, and many of us are old enough to remember how we used to "toboggan" up and down the steep sides of the Castle Hill, into the Horse Market below, where there was no boundary wall. The late Mr. Charles Sabine, senr., was instrumental in rescuing the Hill from the hands of the spoilers, and induced a number of leading Oswestrians to form a syndicate to purchase it from the trustees of Mr. Venables of Woodhill, to whom it belonged, but again the "Castle Bank," as we call it, fell into a neglected condition, and finally it was reserved for Mr. Alfred Wynne Corrie of Park Hall, among the many memorable acts which signalised the four years of his Mayoralty, officially to receive the Bank from the late owners and to dedicate it to the public of Oswestry for ever.

ADDENDUM.

It may interest local readers to note that "The Story of Oswestry Castle" formed the subject of a drama written at the commencement of the present century, the title page of which is as follows. It will be seen that the names of several of the dramatis personæ are taken from the actual records. For many years the "Stanton" Company, by whom the piece was performed, had a high reputation in the Western and Midland counties. Mr. and Mrs. Fawcett, who are mentioned, were the grandfather and grandmother of Mr. Owen S. Fawcett, a well-known and esteemed Shakespearian actor, now resident in the United States, whose family vault is in the Oswestry Parish Churchyard :—

THE

CASTLE OF OSWESTRY

OR

THE SIEGE OF 1644,

A

NEW OPERATIC DRAMA

IN THREE ACTS,

Founded on historic fact and first acted at The New Oswestry Theatre on Tuesday, 12th November, 1819.

OSWESTRY :

Printed and sold by W. PRICE, Cross Street.

PRICE 2S. 6D.

To

WILLIAM ORMSBY GORE, Esq.,

With a just sense of the indulgent kindness he has shewn to my first dramatic effort,

THE

CASTLE OF OSWESTRY

is by permission most respectfully dedicated by his very obliged and obedient humble servant

THE AUTHOR.

DRAMATIS PERSONÆ.

Sir Absett Shipman ... ... Mr. FAWCETT.
(Governor of the Town and Castle of Oswestry).

The Earl of Denbigh ... ... Mr. GILES.
(Commander of the Parliament forces).

George Cranage ... ... Mr. HEATHCOTE.
(Aide de Camp to the Earl).

Col. Lenori ... ... Mr. TYRER.
(A Portuguese soldier of fortune in the Parliament service).

Captain Mordaunt ... . Mr. HENDERSON.
Ensign Belford ... ... Mr. WILSON.
Corporal Gurier Gillert ... ... Mr. CUFFLEY.
(Gardener at the Castle).
Peter ... ... Mr. ATKINS.
(A peasant lad, grandson to Maudelaine, in love with Cissita).
Soldiers, Constables, &c.
Ethelinda... ... ... Miss STANTON.
(Daughter of the Governor).
Alice ... ... Mr. CUFFLEY.
(Ethelinda's friend and confidant).
Cissitta ... ... Miss WESTON.
(A peasant girl in love with Peter).
Dame Maudeline... ... ... Mrs. FAWCETT.

AN ANCIENT BRONZE MATRIX FOUND AT CHIRBURY.

By the Rev. JOHN BURD, M.A., Prebendary of Hereford.

(With a Plate).

In 1879 the sexton of Chirbury Church, in digging a grave, found what he took to be a piece of old iron, which he threw aside amongst the stones and refuse as worthless. Being questioned some time afterwards as to whether he had ever found any objects of interest in the course of his work, he mentioned this piece of metal, and pointed to the place where it lay. Curiosity being awakened in my mind regarding it, I instructed him to search for it, and after a thorough overturning of the refuse it was at length found. It proved to be a bronze matrix of good workmanship, for casting images of the Blessed Virgin with the infant Jesus in her arms. Its dimensions are as follows:—$4\frac{5}{8}$ inches long, $1\frac{1}{2}$ in. broad in the part where the die is cut, which occupies two-thirds of the whole length; the other third, forming a short handle, is $1\frac{3}{8}$ in. long, and $\frac{1}{2}$ an in. broad; the length of the figure is 3 inches. Being desirous of obtaining the best opinion on this interesting relic, I sent a cast from the matrix to the late Mr. Matthew H. Bloxam of Rugby, who wrote as follows:—

Rugby, 16th October, 1879.

Dear Sir,

I thank you very much for the cast in wax from the bronze matrix found at Chirbury, with the little statuette of the B. Virgin and Infant Christ. It is evidently the work of some seal engraver, the matrices of seals of monastic foundations being mostly of brass. The engraver has in this case, unless the wax has flowed too much, sunk his die in a portion

BRONZE MATRIX.

FOUND AT CHIRBURY.

of the drapery too deep. The costume consists of the veiled head dress, but there is no wimple, the neck being bare; the body attire consists of the gown and mantle, the cordons of the latter being fastened in front by a fermail, or morse.

The Pose of the figure was a common one in the 14th century. I should attribute the matrix, which is a very interesting one, to the latter part of the 14th century, or early part of the 15th century, circa A.D. 1390-1410. Pilgrim's tokens were frequently cast in lead or pewter, and I think it probable that the casts from this matrix were also of lead or pewter. I think gutta percha properly prepared would be a good material for taking impressions.

Should I find any representations from seals with which to compare it I will let you know.

I hope to exhibit the impression at some meeting of the Royal Archæological Institute.

Again thanking you for the cast,

I remain, Dear Sir,

Yours very faithfully,

MATT. H. BLOXAM.

The Rev. John Burd
Chirbury Vicarage,
Shropshire.

The site of the Priory of Austin Canons, founded in the reign of Henry II. or Richard I., adjoins the Churchyard of St. Michael's Church, and when Oliver Midulton, the last Prior of Chirbury, rendered his account to the Commissioners of King Henry VIII., 1534-5, he set down as one of the sources of income :—

"Oblations at the several shrines of Saints in the Parish Churches of the Prior's Advowson £5 12s. 10d."[1] One of these "several shrines" was "The chapel of St. Mary's Well (*Sanctæ Mariæ de Font*)"; but where this was situated I am unable to state, unless it was the well at Shelve, known to this day as Lady Well, which gives its name to the Lady-well Mines. It is certain that the Prior of Chirbury held 15 acres of land

[1] Eyton's *Antiq. Shrop.*, ii., p. 63.

at Shelve in 1249, from which Thomas Corbet, Baron of Caws, was then endeavouring to oust him, and succeeded in so doing a year later.[1] But these powerful ecclesiastics were not wont to sit down tamely under such an act of confiscation, and probably succeeded at a later date in recovering it. The Well might have been on this land, over which a shrine had been erected, and hence the source of income mentioned in the *Valor*. It need hardly be said that in pre-reformation days (as now in the Roman Catholic Church) when devout people brought their oblations to the shrine of a particular saint a small additional payment secured to them an image of the saint, which they carried away with them to their homes as a stimulus to their devotion.

[By the kind permission of Mr. Burd a model of the Matrix has been placed in the Shrewsbury Museum.—EDITOR.]

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[1] Ibid, p. 111.

SOME ACCOUNT OF THE MANOR OF CHETTON.

By Rev. RALPH C. PURTON, B.A.

The Manor of Chetton originally formed the north-western and central portion of the parish to which it has given a name. "Catinton" is derived by Eyton from A.S. Cete, "a hut," and the common termination ton, but this does not seem probable. The obvious meaning of the name appears to be the "ton" of the Ceatingas, or descendants of Ceata.

No less a person than the lady Godiva, famous in story, held the Manor of Chetton before the Conquest. Her husband, Leofric, Earl of Mercia, died 1057, her son Algar in 1059. It is uncertain whether she survived the latter, though it is thought by some that she lived to see England fall a prey to the Norman.

According to *Domesday*, "The Earl himself holds Catinton. Godeva, the Countess, held it in the time of King Edward. Here is i hide geldable. In demesne are iii ox-teams; and vi serfs, ii female serfs [ancillæ], iv villains, and i boor, with a priest, and a provost have iii teams, and yet there might be ii more teams. Here is a new mill, and i league of wood. In time of King Edward, the manor was worth 100s., now it is worth 45s."

Chetton was not the only manor in Shropshire where Godiva had an interest: "The stately hall of Loughton, near Bridgnorth" (as Kingsley terms it in *Hereward*, chap. i.) was also one of Earl Leofric's residences; and this explains the fact that the chapelry of Loughton (i.e., Leofric's-ton), though about seven miles distant, is still annexed to the Rectory of Chetton.

In 1086 "the Earl himself" (i.e., Earl Roger the Norman) holding this manor in demesne grants one-third of the tithes of Ceatintonia to his collegiate Church of Quatford. This can hardly be other than Chetton, yet there is no subsequent notice of tithe possessed here by that foundation.

On the forfeiture of the Norman Earls, Chetton with Great Berwick was granted by the Crown to one William de Goram, who left a daughter and heiress Damietta, wife of Ranulf de Broc before 1166 (Cp. *Transactions*, 2nd Ser., i., 352). Ranulf was a royal favourite, and a great enemy of Becket's, in whose death he appears to have been concerned (see more of him in *Eyton* i., 167). He died about 1187, leaving as his coheirs five daughters; but no partition of his Shropshire lands took place till the death of his widow Damietta in 1204, when Stephen de Turnham, a person of some consequence (for whom see *Transactions*, 2nd Ser., i., 352-3), obtained Chetton, Eudon, and Berwick from King John, representing his wife Edelina to be sole heir of Ranulf de Broc—whereas she was but eldest of five sisters. In fact, by 1205, he had engrossed all the inheritance of Edelina's father and mother. This was, however, disputed by one of her sisters, Sibill de Broc, who, after a protracted litigation (for details of which see *Eyton* i., 171 sqq.), was acknowledged Lady of Chetton.

In 1253 she granted Chetton Mill, worth two merks yearly, to the Nuns of Brewood; and died soon after at an advanced age. She had married William de Arundel, but had no issue.

Upon her death fresh controversy ensued as to her heirs, who after repeated inquests were found to be—the heirs of Edelina her eldest sister; Peter de Hotoft, son of Emma, the eldest daughter of Alice, Sibill's second sister, wife of William Harang; Nicholas de Wancy, son of Felicia, the younger daughter of the said Alice; and Auger de Tatlington, son of Sibill's third sister Clemence, wife of William Malesevers. Lucy,

her youngest sister, is not mentioned, being probably dead without issue. Finally the King granted a third of the manor to Auger de Tatlington, another third to *Robert* de Hotoft and Nicholas de Wancy, the remaining third and the advowson being retained by the Crown, Edelina's heirs putting in no claim. In 1266 the King had granted this third to Robert Corbet of Chaddesley, as a reward for faithful service—though Robert appears to have had a previous interest here by purchase. Before 1270 he was dead, and had acquired the whole of the manor. As Robert Corbet, lord of Chetington, he grants to Sir Robert Burnel one acre in his demesne in Chetton, and the advowson of the Church, as far as it belonged to him, and the homage of Hugh de Holicote. For this Robert Burnel was to pay 1d. yearly in the Church of Chetton. The rest of his interest in Chetton Corbet granted to his nephew William Corbet. Both these grants the King confirmed.

The terms of service was the finding of one footman with bow and arrows for the wars in Wales, where he was to stay till he had shot away his arrows. In 1277 for the muster at Worcester against Llewellyn William Corbet had to find one man, who was to take with him a gammon of bacon and stay till it was eaten. In 1283 William Corbet was dead, his heir being Sir Roger, whose service is described as one footman in the King's Army during the Welsh wars, with one bow and three arrows, and a caltrop, and also "a cured hog, and when he reached the King's Army he was to deliver to the King's Marshal half thereof, and the marshal was to give him of the same half-bacon for dinner as long as he stayed in the army, and he was to stay as long as the hog lasted." By 1291 Robert (Roger?) Corbet was dead, and William his son a minor,—Nesta widow of Sir Roger (re-married to Thomas de Rossall) holding land in Chetton of his inheritance worth 48s. 10d. In 1316 the said William is returned as Lord of Chetton.

In 1423 John "Lord Talbot and de Chetton" presents to the living. This was the famous first Earl of

Shrewsbury, whose son, the second Earl, afterwards had claims here as will be seen below.

According to Blakeway (Bodl. MS., Salop, 10, f. 248,) however, the manor passed through several hands after Corbet,—the next possessor being, says this authority, the Lord Clinton, who sold it to one Richard Legett, from whom it was purchased by Sir John Cowper, Rector of Chetton (see list below). This scarcely agrees with Talbot's tenure; nor with the inquest on the death of Sir William Lord Lovel (and of Eudon Burnel,—see the account of that manor) in 1454, where, among his estates in Shropshire occurs not only "9 mess. 1 car. 5 virg. terr.," and so forth, of land in Chetton, but also "Chetton Maner" itself *(Cal. Inq. p. m.)*. This I am unable to explain; but it seems that Chetton must have passsed to Sir John Cowper before 1416, for (to continue Blakeway's account) he had made Christiana, daughter and co-heir of Sir John Stepleton, and wife of Robert Cresset of Upton Cresset, his heir. But Cresset's title to Chetton was disputed by no less a person than John Talbot, 2nd Earl of Shrewsbury, and not until that nobleman fell in battle (1460) could he make good his claim. In 1464 he called together an assembly of ecclesiastics and laymen of repute, in his little church of Upton, to give their decision in the matter. In the course of the inquiry it appeared that Sir John Cowper had solemnly notified Christiana to be his heir, publicly taking her by the hand in Chetton Church, and calling the congregation there present to witness. Asked as to the Earl's claim, the Rector took a solemn oath, with hand upon breast, that the said Earl had no claim whatever. The assembly decided in favour of Cresset, who was declared to hold the Manor by free gift of the said Rector.

The curious inquirer will find a copy of the "Notarial Instrument," in Latin, in Blakeway's collection (MS. Bodl., Salop, 10, f. 249).

Robert Cresset, Sheriff in 1469, was son of Hugh, Sheriff in 1435 (Cp. Blakeway's *Sheriffs*). Christiana,

his widow, was, it appears, re-married to one Coyney, whose daughter Joyce married Edward Burton of Longnor (Ibid., p. 165).

Sir John, Lord Lovell, held at his death (1464) lands, etc., in Chetton, which Joan his widow held in 1466.

Of the subsequent history of the Manor, *as such*, I have no further information. Francis and Edward Cresset (sons of Thomas Cresset and Elizabeth Cornwall ?) present to the living in 1603, but whether this family had any interest in the manor at that time, I cannot say. At the present day there are no traces of manor or manorial rights. It would appear that, at the time of the Visitation of 1623 the old manor had been divided up into the estates which now take its place, and are freehold. Of these, therefore, some account is subjoined.

HOLICOTE.

The name of this, the most easterly portion of Chetton, apparently implies the "Cot" of some holy man. Holicote is styled a manor by Blakeway, but was probably a tenure under the lords of Chetton.

In 1194 we have an assize of *mort d' ancestre*, in which Hugh de Holicote was plaintiff against Adam de Hereford (*Eyton* i., 181). In 1220 Hugh de Holicote appears as surety for Sibill de Broc, lady of Chetton. In 1255 this or a second Hugh sat as a juror of the Stottesdon Hundred, and about 1268 Robert Corbet, Lord of Chetton, grants his homage to Sir Robert Burnel (see above). In a deed of this period he is styled son of Geoffrey de Criddon, whence it appears that he was husband of Sibill, daughter and heiress of Geoffrey. She had re-married in 1274.

Hugh was succeeded by Sir Roger de Holicote, who granted a messuage, etc., here to William Hobald "of the mill," who in his turn grants it (1297) to his son William and Mabil his (son's) wife, to be held under Hugh de Holicote, chief lord—the successor of Sir Roger. The name of Hobald or Hubbal, a family

possessing more than one interest in this neighbourhood, still survives in the name Harpsford, which appears as "Hubbal's ford" in a road-book of recent date, while "the mill" there situate is styled "Hubbol's Mill" in the Churchwardens' Accounts for 1632. I do not quite understand why Eyton (i., 182) should distinguish between William Hobald "of the Mill" and William Hobald "of Harpsford," for "the mill" and Harpsford seem to have been one and the same place.

John, son of William Hobald, in 1374[1] grants to Guy, "Lord of Holicote," the land above mentioned, among the witnesses being Thomas de Glasleye, Hugo de Upton, Robert de St. George, &c. In 1384 Thomas de Glasleye granted to Richard son of Guy all his lands, tenements, and services in the vill and territory of Holycote, within the lordship of Eudon Burnell. These are further expressed in a deed (1404) between Henry de Wynnesbury and the said Richard Holycote (as he is styled), to be the lands, tenements, etc., which Thomas de Glasleye had of the gift and feoffment of Guy de Holycote.

Richard Holicote greatly improved his estate here. In 1410 Roger de Westwode granted to him all the lands and tenements etc. in the town and vill of Holicote, which he had of the gift and feoffment of Edith de Westwode, daughter and coheiress of another Richard de Holicote. In 1416 he enfeoffed in all his lands here Sir John Talbot (afterwards Earl of Salop), Adam Osborne, Rector of Chetton, and William Lawrence, Rector of Sidbury; and he then (the feoffees having apparently reinstated him) grants the lands etc to his brother William, and to Joan his (own) daughter by a former wife. The latter was dead 1438 when William made a similar grant to his brother Richard and Marjery his wife—to them and their issue male, with remainder

[1] My principal source of information for the account that follows is Blakeway's Bodleian MSS. Salop, vol. i. Paroch. Hist. (10, ff. 239-247).

to the daughters. In 1460 Marjery had remarried John Forten of Holicote, and they grant Holicote to John Lord of Lovell, Humphrey Blount, and Thomas de Lalewhet (?) Rector of Sidbury. From the names of the various feoffees it is clear that the Holicotes were a family of some consideration.

In 1494 Katherine Hawys, widow of Peter Hawys of Ludlow and daughter of John Forten, releases to John Hord all her right in the aforementioned lordships. It is not clear when or how the Hords came into possession here, but in 1493 John Estoppe of Madeley, husbandman, granted to John Hord of Bridgnorth all his lands etc. in Holicote, and he was probably feoffee of the Holicotes, for six years before he had granted the messuage etc. formerly John Hobal's to Alice daughter and heiress of William Holicote.

This John Hord was of Hord's Park, near Bridgnorth, and was Sheriff in 1488. His father Thomas, who survived him, was also Sheriff in 1457, and married Joyce, daughter and coheiress of Sir John Stepleton. Thomas was son of Richard Hord (by Agnes daughter and coheiress of John Perell, Bailiff of Shrewsbury, 1407), son of Thomas (by Alice daughter and coheiress of John Palmer, of Bridgnorth), whose father Richard,—who married Margaret daughter and coheiress of Sir Robert Francis, was son of Richard,—called *Roger* by Blakeway, and identified with the Sheriff of 1381,—who was grandson of Richard Hord who married Joyce, daughter of Sir Nicholas Young.

In 1494 John Hord purchased the interest of Thomas Summer of Albrighton in the messuages, lands etc., in Holicote. He was succeeded by his son Thomas (by Mary, daughter of William Bulkeley of Beaumaris), who left an only daughter and heiress (by Dorothy, daughter and heiress of John Harper of Rushall) Frances, married 1st to Edward Rawlegh of Farmingho (Norf.), and secondly to Thomas Fermor of Somerton (Oxon).

Her claim in Holicote was disputed by William Powes of Shipton,—as representative of William de

Holicote, who had left a daughter and heiress Alice, wife of one Powes, whose great-grandson William, son of John, was father of the said claimant. His case was decided against him by the Court of the Marches, and he accordingly releases the lands to Frances. She leased Holicote to John Fewtrell of Chetton, yeoman, for 24 years at 34s. rent.

This John Fewtrell was younger son of John Fewtrell of the Down (see below), and was buried at Chetton, September 20th, 1605. In the Visitation Pedigree he is recorded as having four sons and two daughters, but a comparison with the registers renders it probable that the correct number was six sons and three daughters, viz., Thomas, bapt. at Chetton, March 12th, 1558; Marjery, bapt. April 22nd, 1559; Thomasin, bapt. March 30th, 1561, and married September 15th, 1583, to Edward Reynolds; Walter, bapt. March 18th, 1563; John, bapt. July 25th, 1565; Edmund, bapt. December 3rd, 1567; Richard, bapt. April 30th, 1570, whose wife's name was Jane, by whom he had issue—Dorothy, Thomas, and Richard; Francis, bapt. April 4th, 1574, and married, 1627, to Rebecca Gallimore, by whom he had issue; and Peter, bapt. July 20th, 1578.

Edward, son of Richard Fewtrell "of Holicott," was baptized at Chetton in 1623, and buried the same year. This was probably a son of the above-named Richard by a second wife, his wife Jane having died in 1616.

Richard Fewtrell "the younger" occurs 1634, and Richard Fewtrell and Elizabeth his wife were resident in Chetton as late as 1666, when Elizabeth, wife of Richard Fewtrell, John, son of Richard Fewtrell, and also Richard Fewtrell were buried. They left several children, but the family appears to have left the parish soon after, for the burial of Thomas Fewtrell, "formerly of this parish," in 1677 is the last entry in the Register.

On the demise of Frances Fermor without issue, Holicote passed to her cousin-german Thomas Hord, who held it in 1594, and was living 1603. He was son of John Hord (first cousin of Frances Fermor) by Katharine,

daughter of Adam Otley of Pitchford. In 1594 he was engaged in raising coals here. Traces of coal mines are evident at the present day, but their working has long been abandoned.

How long Holicote remained in this family I have not discovered. It is now divided up into several smaller freeholds.

WALSBATCH.

The probable meaning of the name, and some notices of this place are given in the account of Faintree. It lies in the centre of the parish. The family of Colburne, or (as it is often written) Cowburne were resident here when the Registers begin (1538). Sir William Cowburne was rector of Chetton at that time, and was buried there March 15th, 1575. He bequeathed xx*s.* to the poor of the parish. He was, doubtless, kinsman (perhaps father) of Richard Colburne, or Cowburne, "of Walsbach," who married, 1572, Dorothy, daughter of Leonard Fewtrell of the Down (see below), and died 1585, leaving by her four daughters, Margaret, d. 1620, æt. 46; Elizabeth, b. 1576; Dorothy, d. an infant 1578; and Jane, b. 1582; and a son Roland (1579-1623), who by his wife Joyce, d. 1614, had an only child Richard, who died an infant 1614. I find mention also of Mary Cowburne, married 1563 to Stephen Farmer; and of Ann, married 1567 to Richard Fewtrell.

Of the same family, no doubt, was Richard Colburne "of the Wood," who was buried at Chetton 1615. A cottage, now pulled down, called "the Wood," not far from the Church, marked perhaps the site of his residence. In the Churchwardens' Accounts, among the bequests, we have:—"Richard Colborne th' elder and Elizabeth his wife gave the daye and yeare above wrytten [Ap. 5th, 1615], the some of xx*s.* to be sett ffoarth at the Rate of xx*d.* per annu' to be bestowed ffor the poore of the parishe on good ffryday in each yeare by the Churchwardens forever to be continued."

His son Richard Colborne, "yeoman," in 1616 paid iiis. iiiid. "for his father's buryall in the church." He was buried at Chetton, December 7th, 1638, leaving by his wife Dorothy an only surviving son, "Richard Colborne, gent." (1621-1665), who by his wife Margaret (re-married in 1670 to Richard Wilkes) had three daughters—Isabel, b. 1646; Dorothy, b. 1648, married in 1670 to Mr. Giles Kettleby; and Margaret, b. 1650; and one son George, bapt. at Chetton, November 4th, 1651. Soon after 1670 the family appears to have left the parish.

The next family whom I find at Walsbatch is that of Aston. George Aston was Churchwarden of Chetton in 1644. "Mr. George Aston, sen.," was buried there April 7th, 1678. By his wife Margaret, ob. 1674, he left a son George, bur. Jan. 23rd, 1693, married first, 1665, to Alice Hoccom, who, with an infant son, died 1666; secondly to Mary, d. 1706, by whom he had two sons, George and Henry; and two daughters, Margaret and Anne. Henry Aston "of Wasbatch," the second son (1679-1736) by Mary his wife, d. 1740, had a son Edward who died, 1722, an infant. I find no further records of Aston after 1740. Henry Aston was buried in a vault under the aisle of the church, in the centre of the Nave. A large slab bearing his name was uncovered during the recent restoration, but was again paved over.

Soon after this period the family of Baker held Walsbatch. Henry Baker d. Dec. 30th, 1803, aged 99 years, and John Baker of Walsbatch, who d. Jan. 13th, 1840, also attained the great age of 90.

Since which period the estate has passed by sale to several proprietors, the present possessor being James Stoddart.

THE DOWN.

The Down occupies the ridge of high land east of Walsbatch, whence its name. The earliest mention of

the place, so far as I have discovered, is in the Pedigree of "Fewtrell of Downe" entered at the Visitation of 1623, from which it appears that this family were seated here as early, at least, as 1500.

John Fewtrell, who heads the pedigree (perhaps the person of this name buried at Chetton, Nov. 3rd, 1551), by his wife, a Wilcox, or Wilkinson, of Broseley, left three sons,—Thomas who died s. p.; John to whom Frances Mrs. Termor leased Holicote (see above); and Leonard Fewtrell of the Down, whose wife's name is given as Bechcote. There is no record of him in the Registers, but his daughter Dorothy was twice married at Chetton, first to Richard Colborne of Walsbatch, Oct. 6th, 1572, and secondly, Jan. 27th, 1586, to John Wrednal, kinsman no doubt to Sir William Wrednal, who was Rector of Chetton (1575-1624). Rowland, son and heir of Leonard Fewtrell, was buried at Chetton, March 27th, 1595. By his first wife Jane, daughter of Robert Cresset, of Upton Cresset, he had two sons and four daughters, three of whom were baptized at Chetton,—Elizabeth, 1581, Margaret, 1584, and Ann, 1586 (buried 1589). Of Jane the eldest there is no record in the Registers; John, the second son, was baptized 1592.

Richard Fewtrell, the eldest son, who entered the pedigree, "Capitalis Constabul. Hundredi de Stottesden," was baptized at Chetton, May 19th, 1589, and there buried March 30th, 1640. He married Frances, d. 1659, daughter and coheiress of Francis Farmer of Eudon Burnell. "Francis Farmer, gent." ("Franciscus Tedstill *alias* Farmer" in the Register), buried at Chetton 1610, bequeathed 40s. to the poor of the parish, and likewise "Thomas Farmer of Eudon Burnell" in 1622. I can find no record of the baptism of Frances or her sisters, but only of the burial of "Mrs. Frances Fewtrell of the Downe," April 29th, 1650—the last entry of Fewtrell in connection with this place. Richard Fewtrell, who bequeathed £10 for the poor, appears to have died without issue.

Arms of Fewtrell :—Per chevron argent and sable, 3 mullets counterchanged, on a chief of the 2nd, 3 leopards faces of the first.

"Richard Smalman of the Down," was buried at Chetton, March 21st, 1671, and his son (presumably), "Mr. Richard Smalman of the Down," May 28th, 1719. His son, also a Richard, by Ann his wife, was father of Arthur, baptized May 5th, 1730. There was another branch of this family resident in Chetton. They appear to have been of some position in the parish.

Subsequently the estate came into the possession of the Bakers of Walsbatch, from whom it passed, through an heiress, to the family of Aston, who now hold it.

THE CHURCH OF CHETTON.

CHETTON CHURCH is one of the oldest foundations in the county, and doubtless owes its existence to Godiva, the famous Countess of Mercia. That a Church was here at the time of the Conquest is clear from the mention of "a Priest" in *Domesday*.

About 1214 Edelina de Broc gave the Church of Chetton to Lilleshall Abbey, but when her claim here was disallowed in favour of her sister Sibil, the act was declared nugatory, and the Abbot accordingly quit-claimed for ever. About 1253 Sibil, as Lady of Chetton, gave a virgate of land worth 16s. yearly "to the Parson of the Church of Chetyton in pure and perpetual alms to find a chaplain to ring the Mass of St. Mary"—the origin of the present glebe, I suppose; also an acre of land to the Church—no doubt the present Churchyard—with a fishpond (servarium) worth 6d. yearly.

In 1291 the Church of Chetyton with the Chapel of Lustone (Loughton) is returned as worth £16 yearly. The Rector of Cound had a portion therein worth 4s., also the Abbot of Wigmore another portion worth 10s. In 1341 the taxation is stated at £16 4s., the Abbot's portion being included (see more fully in *Eyton* i., 183).

In 1534 the net value was £10 19s. 7d., and the Rector of Cound's "pension" of 5s. is again mentioned. Probably, says Eyton, the founder of Cound endowed it with tithes in Eudon Burnell, and possibly Criddon, afterwards made over to the Rector of Chetton in lieu of an annual pension. The Abbot of Wigmore's pension, still mentioned, is probably to be similarly explained.

The Advowson passed from Chetton to Eudon Burnell by grant of Robert Corbet to Sir Robert Burnel (given above). From the Lovels it passed to the Savages (see under Eudon), who sold it, with the Manor, to Thomas Wylde, 4 Eliz. With this family it remained till recent years, when it was purchased with the Woodlands Estate (originally part of Eudon Burnell) by T. M. Southwell.

The oldest portion of the Church is the chancel, which is good early English. The original three-lancet east window, discovered and restored in 1892, was replaced, at some period not defined, by a curious broad window of five lights. The nave represents, I believe, the restoration, for which the brief dates 15 Geo. III.; and was until recently a very plain structure with a gallery. The Tower, embattled, with pinnacles, was erected in 1826.

In 1891-2 the entire building was restored, and greatly improved, at the expense of Mrs. Purton of Faintree, and other subscribers, in memory of William Cecil Pardoe Purton, Esq., J.P., of Faintree, who died 1889, and was buried here. The east window of five lights, already noticed, was taken away, and the original window, of which traces were found, restored.[1] An aumbrey and piscina were also brought to light. A small Vestry was thrown out (now an organ-chamber) on the north side of the chancel. In the nave early English windows replaced the old ones, and a similar window was let into the west side of the Tower, the

[1] It has recently been filled with stained glass in memory of the Rev. J. S. Purton, late rector.

lower story (and belfry) of which was thrown open to the nave by a screened opening. A porch was also added. The interior fittings are almost entirely new.

Chetton must, I think, have suffered severely during the Rebellion, or from "Restoration," for there are no monuments preserved in memory of the families of Whitton, Briggs, or Fewtrell, many members of which were buried here. The principal monuments are to the Pardoe and Purton Families, and a brass to the memory of Archdeacon Vickers should be noticed.

There is a fine peal of six bells, five of which are as old as the sixteenth century, though some have been re-cast.

The Registers date from 1538, and the Churchwardens' Accounts are complete, with a few mutilations, from 1599 to 1743. Besides the families already noticed, the following names occur in the Registers :— Beech, Blount, Burnell, Cheese (yeoman), Colbatch, Fydbin ("gent.") Geary, Gough (yeoman), Greenowes, (yeoman), Hassold, Holland, Kinnersley, Levington, (yeoman), Milner, Smalman, Talbot (yeoman).

The population, above 16 years, in 1676 was 180 conformists, 2 Papists, and no nonconformists. At the last census it was 497.

The acreage of the entire parish is 4,037·782.

INCUMBENTS OF CHETTON.

[Compiled from "MS. Blakeway, 14" (formerly C. Top. Salop, 9), in the Bodleian Library, with additions.]

1255. Richard ffolyott was rector. Dead before 1260. [No less than three persons of this name held the see of Hereford 1148-1234.] — Sibil de Broc, Lady of Chetton.

1278. Philip Burnel. — Sir Hugh Burnel, Lord of Eudon.

The Archdeacon of Bath, Master Ralph de Witham, writes to the Bishop in his behalf; and the Bishop in consequence, though he suspends the execution of the presentation on account of the pre-

	sentee's absence, grants that no time shall run against him, provided the Church in the meantime be honestly served. On the feast of S. Mary Magd. the Bishop commits custody to Sir Richard, parish priest of Chetton, till All Saints, in the name of Philip Burnel clerk. 4 kl. Nov., 1278, the Bishop grants letters dimissory only for this one time to the Bishop of Bath and Wells to order about the admission of Philip Burnel to this living.	
1279.	May 27th, Sir Malcom, Canon of Wells.	The Same.
1284.	Aug. 19th, Sir Nicholas de Hereford, Canon of Hereford. [N. de H., who was Prebendary in 1275 (*Dioc. Hist.*, 119), was of an old Herefordshire Family, and kinsman to the more celebrated Sir N. de H. of Wycliff's days.]	The Same.
1285.	Dec. 21st, Roger de Lectone.	The Same.
1302.	Maurice de Pissato, Acolyte.	The Crown, as guardians of the heir and land of Sir Philip Burnell deceased.
1321.	Godefrid de Rudham. The King orders the Bishop to excuse him residence.	
1322.	May 11th, Alan de Rudham, Priest. The next day his residence is dispensed with, "insistere honestis obsequiis d'ne alienore uxoris d'ni Hugonis Despenser junioris." He resigned 1326 (being then called Lidham) for Wyken.	Dña Alyna Burnel.
1326.	4 Kal. Feb., Hugh de Beysyn, late Rector of Wyken (Dioc. Linc).	
1334.	Jan. 18th, William de Beysin. This Institution is entered again in 1335.	The Same.
1342.	Jan. 17th, Nicholas de Wythiford. Resigned 1355 for his successor's preferment. At the Bishop's Visitation, 1353, Sir N. is stated to be bound to find a clerk "ad jurandum in celebratione divinorum et pulsatione campanorum et hujusmodi in dicta ecclesia."	Dña Alina *de* Burnel.

1355.	July 30th, Richard de Marteleye, late Rector of Lanreind (Dioc. Land.),[1] which he exchanged for this living.	
1369.	John Howel.	Rex.
1371.	Sep. 22nd. Sir Thomas Neeldare (or Nowere), priest. Resigned, 1388, ex causa permut.	Nicholas Burnel.
1388.	Aug. 10th, Sir Adam Osborne, late Vicar of Moneford, which he resigned for this living. Resigned 1423.	Sir Hugh Burnel.
1423.	July 31st, Sir John Cowper, Chaplain, Resigned 1439.	John Lord Talbot and of Chetton.
1439.	Oct. 30th, Sir John Woderton, Chaplain. "Sir John Cause, *alias dictus* Woderton," resigned 1441.	William Lord Lovell.
1441.	Aug. 26th, Sir Walter Woderton, Chaplain.	The Same.
1449.	Sir John Cowper was rector. Resigned 1462.	
1462.	Dec. 15th, Sir David ap Meredit. Sir David "Morgan" resigned 1466.	John Lord Lovell.
1466.	Ap. 24th, Master William Conwey, Chaplain. Resigned 1480.	Nobilis Vir. et mulier Will. Stanley Mil. et Johanna d'na Lovella.
1480.	Aug. 14th, Richard Hunt, Deacon.	Francis Lord Lovell.
1530.	Sir John Foxall died.	
1530.	May 28th, Humphrey Burnell, Died 1536. [There are many entries of this name in the earlier years of the Registers.]	Edward Norton coheir and assign of John Blount, Esq., grantee with Rich. Gwynne *hac vice* of John Savage.
1536-7.	June 17th, Sir William Colborne (or Cowburne), Priest. Buried at Chetton, Mar. 15th, 1575. [There were two families of this name resident in the parish, one at Walsbatch, and another at "The Wood."]	John Typton grantee of Sir John Savage.
1575.	Aug. 9th, Sir William Wrednall. Buried at Chetton, May 4th, 1603. [There was more than one family of this name resident in the parish at this period.]	Stephen Hadnoll, Esq., grantee of Sir J. Savage.
1603.	Nov. 30th, Andrew Adney, B.A. He held Chetton in 1624, but the exact	Francis & Edward Cresset, Esquires.

[1] So apparently Blakeway; but I can find no parish of this name.

1856. July 20th. Funeral of Mr. [illegible], Jun.
[illegible]
1856. July 21st. Funeral of [illegible]
1856. Dec. 25th. Day of Private Thanksgiving [illegible]
[illegible]
1856. Aug. 16th. Mr. Anne [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible]
1857. Feb. 23rd. The Queen's Birthday [illegible]
1857. April 1st. Fast Day [illegible]
1857. April 2nd. Good Friday [illegible]
1857. April 5th. Easter Sunday [illegible]
1857. April 6th. Easter Monday [illegible]
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length of his tenure seems uncertain. [He married for his first wife one Dorothy, by whom he had James (b. 1605); Mary (b. 1607); Susannah (b. 1609); Ann (b. 1611), and a son who died at birth 1614. The name of his second wife was Ruth, buried at Chetton, Aug. 21st 1624. He matric. at St. Mary Hall, Oxford, Oct. 19th, 1599, as a native of Salop, and "fil. pleb.," aged 16, and graduated B.A., March 5th, 1602-3.]

1638. George Benson, M.A., Prebendary of Chichester, and son of Dr. Geo. B. Canon of Hereford. He must have been entirely non-resident, as his name does not occur in the registers. He was ejected from this living, according to Walker (pt. ii. p. 14), by the Committee of Shropshire, and succeeded by Bagley, a mere layman, (cp. ibid. i. 98.) [John Spilsbury, however, who was "curate" 1643-4, signs as "minister" in 1645, and was perhaps predecessor to Bagley. Benson was a native of Worcestershire, and matric. at Queen's College, Oxford, Nov. 21st, 1628, aged 15, and graduated B.A., 1631, M.A., 1634, D.D., 1660; Canon and Archdeacon of Hereford, 1660; Canon of Worcester, 1671; Dean of Hereford, 1672; Died August 24th, 1692, aged 78.]

1637-1642. Wiliam Childe (1637); John Symmons (1640); and Thomas Clent (1642) were "curates."

1645. John Spilsbury, "Minister." See above. He was buried at Chetton, June, 1654. (Qu. a native of Worcestershire, 1602; and M.A. of Magdalen Hall Oxford.]

1654. William Baggeley, "Minister." Ejected 1662 (Calamy).

1662. Nov. 12th. George Barkley, M.A. Buried at Chetton, June 20th, 1676. Edmund Wylde Esquire.

[Will^m Barkley, M.A., rector of Clun-

gunford, had a son George (born about 1607), M.A. of Brasenose Coll., Oxford; also Thos. B. of Ewdness had a son of this name.]

1676. Sept. 20th. Joseph Blundston. The Same.
Buried at Chetton, Oct. 30th, 1714, æt. 71.
[His wife Dorothy was buried under the altar at Chetton (1712), but the stone bearing her name is now covered up. Only half the slab is inscribed, her husband's name apparently having never been added.]

1715. Joseph Soley.
[He was born at Stapple Hall, 1689, and was son of J. Soley, gent.; matric. at Ball. Coll., Oxford, March 16th, 1705-6, aged 16; B.A. 1709; M.A. from C. C. C., Camb., 1718; Vicar of Preshute, Wilts, 1723; Canon of Winchester 1724; Rector of Houghton and of Alesford, Hunts, 1727; died Nov. 25th, 1737.]

1716. Samuel Casson (or Calson, acc. to Blakeway, citing Mon. Ins.). Thomas Wylde Esquire.
Buried at Chetton, Aug. 20th, 1750.
[He was son of Rev. Edward Casson, Vicar of Ombersley, co. Worc., where he was born 1678; he matric. at Oriel Coll., Oxford, Oct. 10th, 1695, aged 17; B.A. 1699; M.A. 1702; Rector of Deuxhill and Glazeley 1713.]

1750-1769. Joseph Ball (1750-2); John Reynolds (1752-9); and Edward Evans (1759-69) sign as "Curate." [Edw. Evans was afterwards Rector of Upton Cressett and Curate of Morville.]

1769. Charles Wylde was Rector.
He died Jan. 1798. [Born at Worcester 1733; son of Robert Wylde, gent.; matric. at Merton Coll., Oxford, Dec. 14th, 1751, aged 18; B.C.L. 1758; Rector of Glazeley and Roddington.] [Probably either his father or his elder brother, Thomas Wylde Esq.]

1781. Charles Fewtrell was "Curate."
[A name once very common in Chetton. Qu. son of John Fewtrell of Bridgnorth,

gent., matric. at Pembroke Coll., Oxford, Dec. 15th, 1778, aged 33.]

1798. April. Edward Davenport.[1] — R. B. Wylde-Browne, Esq.
[In 1801 the Register records that Chas. Fewtrell, Curate, resigned the Curacy of Chetton to the Rev. Edward D., rector.]

1813. The Ven. William Vickers, M.A., Trin. Coll., Cam. Archdeacon of Salop, in Diocese of Hereford, 1830. Died May 10th, 1851, aged 62, and was buried at Worfield.

1851. Richard Herbert. [Qu. Trin. Coll., Dubl.]. Died 1861. [Of the family of H. of Muckross in Ireland.] — T. W. Wylde-Brown, Esq.

1861. John Smyth Purton, B.D., and formerly Fellow and Tutor of St. Cath. Coll., Cambridge. Buried at Chetton, Jan. 1st, 1892. — T. P. Purton, Esq., *pro hac vice.*
[See the account of FAINTREE.]

1892. Henry Kemble Southwell, M.A. Magd. Coll., Oxford; born in London, 1861. [Son of the patron] present Rector. — Thomas Martin Southwell, Esq.

The Rectory House stands in the valley, a mile south east of the church. It was built early in the present century by Archdeacon Vickers. It is surrounded by extensive grounds, and flanked by two gigantic cedars.

NOTE.

To my account of Faintree (Vol. v., pt. ii.) I take the opportunity of making the following additions and corrections.

(1). An inquest on the death of John Whitton, of Whitton and Faintree, is dated 18th Sept., 3 Henry VIII. (See p 215).

(2). Oliver Briggs purchased Faintree from Sir John Whitbrooke, 1610. (See p. 216). [J.B.B.]

(3). A gold lion on a canton sable (says Blakeway) was granted to Briggs of Faintree for cadency by Dugdale, 1663.

(4). On p. 222, *line* 21, *for* "brother" *read* "father," and at *line* 26, *for* "By his first wife," etc., *read* "His first wife was Elizabeth, etc., but he died s.p., his estates passing to his heirs Lionel and Walter, etc."

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[1] Blakeway's list ends here.

SOME ACCOUNT OF THE MANORS OF EUDON BURNELL AND EUDON GEORGE.

By Rev. RALPH C. PURTON, B.A.

Eudon Burnell occupies the high ground forming the south-western portion of Chetton parish. It is traversed by a cross-road connecting the Ludlow road with that leading to Cleobury Mortimer.

At the time of the Domesday Survey, "The same Rainald [the Sheriff] holds Eldone. Ælward held it, and was a free man. Here are ii hides geldable. In demesne are iii ox-teams, and vi serfs, i villain, v boors, and i Frenchman with ii teams. Here is wood for lx swine. It was worth 30s. Now it is worth 40s."

The form Eldon, being a solecism, is rejected by Eyton, who prefers as the original form Eudon, which he derives from the A.S. Eowu (ewe), or eow (ash). But Eldon occurs again in the entry for Eudon George. One is inclined to see in this form the name of the Saxon Ælward (i.e., Æelward's-dun), but he did not hold Eudon George. "Eald" (old) is a possible root, but the derivation seems quite uncertain.

Ælward was Saxon lord of Oldbury and Glazeley. Rainald or his successors appear to have enfeoffed here the same feudatory who also held Chetton, and the history of the two manors is for a time identical. (See the account of Chetton).

On the death of Damietta de Broc, Eudon, with other lordships, was granted to Stephen de Turnham, as husband of Edelina de Broc. He usurped the rights of her sisters, but his claims were disputed (see under Chetton), and the result as regards Eudon was that

Clemence, sister of Edelina, recovered this manor as her share, and conveyed it to her husband William de Malesevers, *alias* de Tatlington (see Eyton i., 186), to whom she bore four sons.

About 1240 Simon de Frankley, who may have been (as Eyton conjectures) second husband of Clemence, held half a fee in Eudon Maleseverez. His granddaughter and eventual heiress Emma, daughter and heiress of Thomas de Luttelton (by his first wife Emma, daughter of the said Simon), was wife of Auger de Tatlington, eldest son of William de Malesevers (Cp. Nash *Hist. Worc.*, i., 458), which Auger was returned in 1255 as lord of Eudon, holding it of John Fitzalan by service of one montar for half a knight's fee, and owing suit to the Sheriff's Court twice a year, but not to county or lesser hundred Courts, because his ancestors rendered no such suit, nor did he pay stretward or motfee.

In 1263 Richard de Eslewode held one virgate of land, etc., of Auger in Eudon, for which he did suit every three weeks at Auger's Court here, and rendered homage and reliefs to him.

Into Auger's endless litigations it is unnecessary to enter: they will be found in Eyton i., 187 sqq. We hear no more of him after 1267. His interest in Eudon was perhaps sold when he conveyed his share of Chetton to Robert Corbet—and probably to Sir Robert Burnel, to whom the said Corbet granted the advowson of Chetton (see under Chetton).

In 1281 Sir Hugh Burnel, brother of the famous Chancellor, had a grant of free warren here, which was claimed in 1292 by his widow Sibil, holding Eudon in dower, prior to whose tenure occurred the following affray, quoted by Eyton from the pleas of the Crown, October, 1292:—

"William de Bedlesworthin (i.e., Belswardine) and Thomas de Kenleye were together in the kitchen of Hugh Burnell in the village of Eudon Burnell, and a quarrel arising between them, William struck Thomas

on the head with a sword, whereof on the fourth day after Thomas died. William is a fugitive and is suspected. He has been summoned, and is outlawed. He had no chattels. The vills of Eudon and Chetynton did not make pursuit, and so they are *in misericordia.* Afterwards it was proved that the said William had chattels, viz., 4s. 6d., for which the sheriff is answerable." (Cp. Eyton, i., 189).

Sir Hugh left a son and heir, Sir Philip Burnel, who, as heir to his uncle, the Lord Chancellor, became possessed of vast estates and the Barony of Holgate. He married Matilda Fitzalan, daughter of the Earl of Arundel, by whom he left a son Edward, who succeeded to the Barony, but died 1315 without issue; and a daughter Maude, heiress to her brother.

Maude Burnel was twice married: her first husband, John, Lord Lovel, was, it is said, deprived of his wife's inheritance by fine, and the Barony of Holgate, etc., accordingly descended to her children by her second husband, Sir John de Handlo (ob. 20 Ed. III.), whose sons Nicholas and Richard assumed the name of Burnel. The younger died before his father, and his line ended in coheirs.

Sir Nicholas Burnel, Baron of Holgate, devised it to his son Sir Hugh, who died (8-9 Henry V.) possessed of the said Barony, with the Manor of Eudon and the advowson of Chetton Church. On his leaving no male issue, his estates appear to have reverted to Sir William Lord Lovel, as representative of Maude Burnel through her *first* husband, for in 1454 this nobleman died possessed of the Manors of Holgate, Acton Burnel, and Eudon, with lands, etc., in Chetton (see under Chetton). By Alice his wife (daughter and eventual heiress of John, Lord Deincourt, and widow of Ralph Butler of Sudley), he left a son, Sir John Lovel, who succeeded him, and died possessed of Eudon Burnell, 4 Edw. IV. His wife Joane, sister and heiress of William, second Viscount Beaumont, survived him, and held Eudon, etc., in 1466 (*Inqu. p. mort.*). Her son Sir Francis, Viscount

Lovel, was attainted by Henry VII. for adherence to Richard III.; and Eudon, with other of his forfeited estates, was granted (1 H. VII.) to Sir John Savage, one of Richmond's commanders at Bosworth, in whose family it continued till early in the reign of Elizabeth, when John Savage conveyed it to Thomas Wylde. By licence dated March 2nd, 4 Elizabeth, John Savage alienated the advowson of Chetton, and apparently Eudon was sold at the same time (as Blakeway supposes).

The Wyldes were an ancient Worcestershire family. Thomas Wylde of the Commandery, Worcester, whose last will is dated 1558, was son of Simon Wylde, and by his second wife Elianor, daughter and coheiress of George Wall of Droitwich, had two sons, George Wylde of Droitwich, and Thomas Wylde of Kemsey, co. Worc., and Glazeley, Co. Salop, who purchased Eudon Burnell with the advowson of Chetton from John Savage. He died 1599, leaving by will xxs. for the poor of Chetton. He married Elizabeth, daughter and heiress of Richard Cooke of Fulwell Hach, Essex, and was father of Sir Edmund Wylde, High Sheriff for Worcestershire, who died 1620, having had issue by his wife Dorothy, daughter and heiress of Sir Francis Clerke of Houghton Conquest, Bedf., two sons, Edmund and Walter, of whom the latter died young.

As patron of Chetton Edmund Wylde is mentioned in the Register of that Church in the account of the institution of George Barkley to that rectory with the Chapelry of Loughton. "Ad quam rectoriam et Capellam dictus Georgius Barkley præsentus fuit per Edmondum Wylde armigerum et indubitatum patronum ejusdem ecclesiæ et capellæ, vicesimo nono die mensis Octobris, anno dom. 1662, etc." Also on the 21st of September, 1676, Joseph Blundston was inducted to the same living on the presentation of "Edmund Wylde, Esquire."

On the death of Edmund Wylde, 1677, without issue (when the male line of this branch appears to have

become extinct), his estates reverted to the descendants of Thomas Wylde of the Commandery, above mentioned, by his *first* wife Alice, daughter of Robert Sudington of Worcester, by whom he was father of Robert Wylde (ob. 1607, æt. 72), whose son Thomas married Dorothy, daughter of Rowland Berkeley of Spetchley, and was father of Robert (ob. 1650, æt. 55), whose son Robert, (by Anne, daughter of Robert Rowland, *alias* Steyner, of Worcester), married Elizabeth, daughter of Thomas Dennis, rector of St. Helen's, Worcester, and left a son Thomas Wylde of the Commandery and of Glazeley, Esq., M.P., b. 1670, whose first wife was Katharine, daughter and coheiress of Sir Baynham Throckmorton of Cloerwall, Glouc., by whom he had a son Robert, whose wife's name was Dowdeswell. Thomas Wylde, son of Robert, and brother, I suppose, of Charles Wylde, Rector of Chetton 1769-1798, married firstly Sarah (b. 1728), eldest daughter of William Purton of Eudon Burnell (see under Faintree), and Sarah his wife, by whom he had a son Thomas Rouse Wylde of the Woodlands, in Glazeley parish, who married the daughter of Mr. Russell, an eminent surgeon of Worcester, but had no issue. On his death the estates reverted to the children of Thomas Wylde by his second wife Elizabeth, daughter and coheiress of Ralph Browne of Caughley, co. Salop, by whom he was ancestor of the Wylde-Brownes of the Woodlands, who recently sold Eudon Burnell to John Pritchard of Stanmore, M.P., whose nephew and heir William Pritchard Gordon, J.P., now holds it.

Arms of Wylde :—Argent on a chief sable three martlets of the field.

Note.—In the last Visitation of Shropshire, 1663, the Pedigree of "More of Eudon Burnell" is entered (Cp. *Transactions,* 2nd Ser., iv., 62). The tenure of the Wyldes was, I believe, continuous, nor is there any trace of a family of the name More in the Registers, etc., so that I am unable to explain the entry. In the Blakeway MS., already referred to, the Arms (exhibiting the swan of the Larden family) and quarterings of

More of Eudon Burnell are sketched, but no further particulars are given. The Pedigree itself I have not examined.

EUDON GEORGE.

This manor lies to the west of Eudon Burnell and adjoins it. The Domesday entry is as follows :—"The same Radulf [de Mortemer] holds [under Earl Roger] Eldone. Edric held it [in Saxon times] and was a free man. Here are ii hides geldable. In demesne are ii ox-teams, and vi serfs and one villain, and ii boors with i team, and still there might be ii more teams. In time of King Edward the manor was worth 25s, and afterwards it was waste. Now it is worth 15s."

For Edric the Saxon see Eyton's account of this manor. William le Savage, who held Eudon early in the twelfth century, had a daughter Geva, wife of Herbert de Tenbury (who left two daughters, Alice and Felicia), and a son Adam le Savage, a person of consequence in his day, whose only son Adam died without issue. His estates passed to the heirs of his six daughters, named de Eudon, de St. George, and de Boys.

Adam de Eudon was living about 1240; William, son of William de St. George, had claims here 1221; and these two shared the fief of Savage, with Geoffrey de Overton. In 1255, William de St. George, Robert Corbet, of Chetton, and Geoffrey de Overton were lords of Eudon. To William de St. George succeeded Adam, who held one knight's fee here in 1305, nor is any other tenant mentioned.

In 1316 Henry de Eudon is returned as lord of this manor. Apparently his real surname was St. George, in which family (who gave the distinctive title to the place) Eudon remained some time further. In 1374 Robert de St. George witnesses a deed of John Hobald to Guy, Lord of Holicote. In 1414 John de St. George is said to have held Eudon (Blakeway).

The family of Bruyn is the next whom I find in possession. John Bruyn of the Hay (1420), who married Ellen Worthyn (see Blakeway's *Sheriffs*), was father of William (1439), whose son John Bruyn bequeathed Eudon George and other estates in this neighbourhood to his daughter and heiress Marjery, wife of William Oteley of Pitchford (Sheriff of Shropshire 1500, ob. 1529), and she, by her will dated 1530, settles Eudon, etc., on her younger son Thomas Oteley of Forde, who left two sons, Richard and Walter; but how long Eudon remained in this family I have not discovered.

From the Registers it appears that families of the name of Cock and Farmer lived here, and the Tedstills also are mentioned in connection with it.

TEDSTILL.

This is a small township, once, presumably, part of the Manor of Eudon George. The origin of the name is obscure. In 1219 Alan de Thedestiel is mentioned. In 1240 we have a fine between Geoffrey de Griddon (Criddon) plaintiff, and William de Middelton, tenant, of half a knight's fee and one virgate of land in Criddon and Godestil (i.e., no doubt Tedstill). This form of the name is strange, but perhaps original, in which case the second syllable must have been accented and the first two letters lost sight of.

The Cistercian Convent at Brewood owned land here. The yeoman family of Tedstill, who appear to have been seated here from a remote antiquity, are mentioned in the Registers as late (at least) as 1726.

The family of Dorye is the next whom I find in possession. John Dorye of the Hay (1539), who married Ellen Wootton (see Baldwyn's Shropshire), was father of William (1569), whose son John Dorye bequeathed Eudon George and other estates in the neighbourhood to his daughter and heiress Margery, wife of William Oteley of Pitchford (Sheriff of Shropshire 1638, ob. 1653), and she, by her will dated 1691, settled Eudon, etc., on her youngest son Thomas Oteley of [illegible], who left two sons, Edward and William, but how long Eudon remained in the family I have not discovered.

From the Registers it appears that families of the name of Dale and Palmer lived here, and the Ludlows also were connected in connection with it.

TEDSTILL.

This is a small township, presumably part of the Manor of Eudon George. The origin of the name is obscure. In 1410 John de Tedestill is mentioned. In 1260 we have a fine between Geoffrey de Gyrlon (Glazeley plaintiff) and William de Mulneton, deforciant, of half a knight's fee and one carucate of land in Gyrlon and Tedestill (i.e., no doubt Tedstill). This form of the name is strange, but perhaps original, in which case the second syllable must have been dropped and the first two letters [illegible].

"The [illegible] of [illegible] had been the yeoman family of Tedstill. They appear to have been settled here from a remote antiquity, and are found in the Registers as late as about 17[illegible]."

THE CHURCHWARDENS' ACCOUNTS OF THE PARISH OF HIGH ERCALL.

By the Hon. and Rev. G. H. F. VANE, M.A., Vicar of High Ercall.

These accounts begin in the year 1685, i.e., exactly one hundred years later than the parish registers begin, and though a few pages near the beginning of the first volume are missing, the accounts are continued with this exception in an unbroken series to the present day. Until 1717 each list of disbursements is preceded by one of receipts, but after the date mentioned the list of receipts is omitted until 1735, when it re-appears for three years, appearing again and for the last times in 1768 and 1769. In the most ancient lists fourteen townships appear in order, beginning with "Imprimis. Ercall. The Right Hon^ble^ ffrancis Lord Newport."

In 1709 the title of Baron Newport of High Ercall, which had been created by Charles I. in 1643, is merged in the higher title of the Earldom of Bradford, but the name of the "Lordship Division" of the parish is continued until 1836. This division comprised the townships of Ercall, Walton, Osbaston, Cotwall, and Moor, the remainder being sometimes called "the Chapelry," and more definitely "Rowton Chapelry" in 1853-4-5. Lord Bradford's name continues to head the list until 1768, when it makes way for those of Thomas Thomas and William Randle, the fine old hall which had been gallantly defended by Lord Newport against the Parliamentarians, in 1646, being apparently divided into two houses in 1768, and so continuing until about 50 years ago. In connection with the transference of this

great family's property in the parish of High Ercall to other hands, the following entry in our Churchwardens' books is of interest :—

1770, May 1st. Mr. Clarke received of Mr. Newport for the use of Rowton Chapil £12.

An account of the expenditure of this money in the repair of the chapel follows, and then this note :—

The above account is not put in the Parish Accounts, because the money was not received from the Parish.

To return, however, to 1685. The only names appearing in the list of that year, and still represented in the same locality, are those of Adney and Buttrey, both of Rowton. The former is followed by this entry :

And for Dragge Lane house ... ... 00 . 01 . 06

A family of the name of Adney lived in the same spot for at least a century before, for the very first entry in the parish registers records the burial of "George Adeney of Rowton, one of the six men of the parish," in 1585.

The totals for 1685 are thus summed up :—

Received by Lewne the Sume of...	15 . 05 . 06
Disburst the Sume of	17 . 09 . 06
Soe that wee have Disburst more then wee have Received ye Sume of	02 . 04 . 00

To this I would only add that the unusual words "lewn" and "lestall" have been used from time immemorial in this parish, the latter apparently being always the sum mentioned below :—

1694.	Received for the Widow Lloyd's Lestall	00 . 03 . 04
1728.	Recd. one Lestall for burying in y^e^ Church	00 . 03 . 04

COLLECTIONS AND BRIEFS.

This is the first subject which attracts our attention after the lists of receipts, and while the Parish Registers

record three collections in 1661 and no others, the following are found in the Churchwardens' Books:—

Collections in the years 1687 and 1688.

Letters Pattent	ffor ffrench Protestants	01 . 05 . 06
	ffor poore Inhabitants in Com. Yorke...	00 . 07 . 05
	ffor a fire in S^{t} Leonard Stanley in Com. Glocester	00 . 08 . 01
		02 . 01 . 00

In connection with the first of these entries we may recall the fact that the Edict of Nantes was revoked by Louis XIV. in 1685, and that no previous brief ever brought in such large sums as those which throughout the kingdom were subscribed for the refugees, of whom De Foe satirically wrote:—

> Four hundred thousand wooden pair of shoes,
> Who, God be thanked, had nothing left to lose,
> To Heaven's great praise, did for religion fly
> To make us starve our poor in charity.

In 1689 we find the following:—

For sending the money to y^{e} Archdeacon y^{t} was gathered for y^{e} protestants in Ireland ... 00 . 02 . 06

And in 1690 a similar entry, the charge, however, this time being four shillings, "the messenger lying out a night extraordinary, ye Archdeacon not being at home."

In 1694 there was "collected in this Parish for ye relief of ye French Protestants the sum of three pounds and five pence," the transmission of which sum cost no less than five shillings. And connected with this subject is the following entry in 1792:—

A Journey to Eccleshall to pay in the subscription for the French Clergy ... ... 0 . 5 . 0

And, indeed, Parliamentary grants to "poor French Protestant refugee clergy" and "poor French Protestant laity," were made in the annual votes of supply up to the present reign.

In April, 1699, there was "collected for ye Relief of ye Persecuted Vaudois the sum of two pounds three shillings and 8d," this, perhaps, going to form a part of the huge total of £80,000 which was amassed for the relief of those Italian Protestants on whose behalf all England was stirred, and on whose oppressors Milton, some years before, so grandly invoked vengeance in his magnificent ode, beginning :—

> Avenge, O Lord, thy slaughter'd saints, whose bones
> Lie scattered on the Alpine mountains cold.

In 1704 more numerous collections were made, viz. :

For a fire at Stockton in Stanton Lacy	0	7	9
For a fire at Great Massingham in Norfolk ..	0	8	0
For a fire at Longdon in Pontesbury	0	5	11½
For a fire at South Molton in Devon	0	6	3
For rebuilding Church Minshall Church in Chester	0	7	0
For a fire in Great Queen Street, London ...	0	9	0
For Isaac Robotham, for loss by fire	0	5	11
For Seamen's widows and orphans	0	11	11½
For a fire at Wapping	0	13	2½

And in 1705 and 1706 :—

For the repair of Beverly Church	0	8	2
For a fire at Bradmore co. Notts...	0	6	9
For a fire in the parish of S. Saviour's, Southwark	0	6	3
For a fire at Meriden co. Warwick	0	5	7½

In 1705

There was pd. for a Booke to register Affidavits and Collections upon Briefs	00	01	00

However, the following are entered in the Churchwardens' Book :—

Collections for Briefs for ye yeare 1714.

ffor Burslam Church	00	08	05
ffor Battisham	00	07	01½
for Dorchester	00	07	01¼
for St. John Baptiste	00	07	01¼
for Blandford forum	00	08	00

And for 1715 :—

ffor drynton	00 . 06 . 09½
for Kentford	00 . 08 . 03¼
for Blimhill	00 . 08 . 03½
for St. Peters	00 . 07 . 04
for Newcastle	00 . 15 . 06½
for Cow Keepers	02 . 01 . 11
for Bowyer	00 . 07 . 09¼
for Derby	00 . 06 . 09
for Warwick	00 . 05 . 07½
for Torksey	00 . 06 . 03½
for Shoreham	00 . 07 . 09½
for Ruthin	00 . 08 . 03¼
ffor Wrexham	00 . 06 . 06¼
for L'erpoole	00 . 05 . 06½
for Michin	00 . 05 . 04½
for St. Maries	00 . 19 . 05

The least intelligible of these items is that "for Cow Keepers," which, however, evidently appealed to the generosity of the parishioners far more than the other objects. I fear that a gap of thirty years is sufficient to ruin any hoped for explanation from the following entries, which, however, are somewhat curious :—

1746.	Pd. for ye Act concerning ye Distemper'd Cattle	0 . 2 . 0
„	Pd. for three more Acts for Dº	0 . 3 . 0
1747.	For two Acts concerning the Cattel	0 . 2 . 0
„	for a prayer for the Cattell	0 . 1 . 0

The following "Collections for Briefs" are recorded in 1718 :—

Sⁿᵗ Mary Newington in Com. Surrey	0 . 06 . 8
Grindon Church in Com. Stafford	0 . 06 . 11
Ashborn & Mappleton Churches	0 . 07 . 5
Cherrington in Com. Warwick by fire	0 . 07 . 0
Newland & Chepping wicombe loss by fire	0 . 06 . 6
Penreth Church in Com. Combr	0 . 05 . 6

And in 1721 :—

Louth in the county of Lincoln Newport in ye county of Salop	00 . 05 . 11½

Bercot & Wheatley in the county of Oxon ...	00 . 06 . 10
Kingston on Hull towne and county	00 . 08 . 00
Cemberton in ye county of Salop & ... Digerth in ye county Radnor	00 . 05 . 01½
Tucksbury Church in the county of Gloster ...	00 . 18 . 00
Fitts Church in ye county of Salop	00 . 06 . 08½
October ye 17th pd in at ye visitation free money (?)	02 . 10 . 07½
Damdram in ye county of Wilts	00 . 06 . 02½
Jenkin Virgoe at St. Ives in the ... ... county of Cornwall	00 . 06 . 06½
Usk church in the county of Monmouth ...	00 . 06 . 2½
1722. Welchpoole in ye county of Montgomery	00 . 05 . 9½
Igmanthorp in ye county of Yorke and Norton of Canock in com. Stafford ...	00 . 06 . 10
Amberley in the county of Sussex ...	00 . 06 . 2½

These are the last of the lists of this kind, but entries of small sums "pd. for a brief," "pd. to a brief," or "laid down for briefs," recur at frequent intervals down to the present century, when they are entered together with other expenses at the Bishop's and Archdeacon's Visitations as late as 1826 at the least. The Overseers also paid a few sums for briefs, their books containing, besides other entries, the following:—

1732. towards Breefs	03 . 00 . 00
1742. pd. the Churchwardens the Bishop's Letter	1 . 10 . 0
1775, Nov. 5. Agreed to allow Towards a Breef are Collected the sum of	0 . 2 . 6
1788, Oct. 19. Agreed that 2d for each briefe should be Allow'd out of the Church Lewn Except for fire and then something more as to be Agreed by the Parish.	

THE KYNASTON FAMILY.

By W. BURSON.

This ancient family is one of the eight Knightly or Noble Families of Shropshire included in Evelyn Philip Shirley's well-known book, "The Noble and Gentle Men of England." This accepted authority says that "The Kynastons are lineal descendants of the ancient British Princes of Powys, sprung from Griffith, son of Iorwerth Goch, who took refuge in this county."

At the head of the family pedigree is Bleddyn ap Cynfyn, called by the heralds (Visitation of Shropshire, 1623) Prince of Wales, "who was most trayterously and cowardly murdered (at Welshpool) by Rees sonne of Owen ap Edwin after he had worthily governed Wales 13 yeares An'o 1073." His son Meredith, who was slain in South Wales in 1133, had by his second wife, Eva, daughter of Beti ap Ednowen Bendow, a younger son Iorwerth (or Jerwerth) Gogh, or *Red Edward*, one of whose sons was Griffith or Griffin, whom the heralds call Gruffith Vychan (or the younger), Knight of Rhodes; and they enter his wife as Matilda, daughter of Jevan Gogh ap Griffith ap Rees ap Meredith. Arms: Gules, three lions passant, argent. But a more reliable authority (Eyton ii., 113) assigns Griffin another wife, Matilda, sister of Ralph le Strange, Baron of Knockyn, who had died in 1195, leaving a fair inheritance to be divided among three sisters, his co-heiresses. Of these, Matilda had married Griffin de Sutton (Maddock), son of Gervase Gohk (as Eyton calls "Red Edward"); and they obtained, 9 Richard I., 1197, John le Strange's feoffment in the whole *vills* of Dovaneston (Dovaston),

and of Kineverdeston (Kinaston), in lieu of their third of Knockyn. The arms of Le Strange were *two* lions passant, one less than on the coat mentioned above. Griffin had issue only by this wife—three sons, Madoc, Griffin, and Hoel; and through her he and his descendants became possessed of Kinaston, whence the family have derived their name. This place, in Domesday called *Chimerestun* (in Welsh Tregynant, which signifies the same), is near Kinnerley. Of these sons, Griffin (whom the heralds call Gruffith Vychan de Karhowell) married a daughter of Robert Bulkeley of Chester, and had a son, who is the first that appears of the family name.

This was Griffin, or Griffith, who as "Griffin de Kineneston" witnessed in 1313 a grant to Haghmon Abbey; he married Gwen, daughter and heiress of Jerworth ap Griffith, and had a son Philip Kynaston (Keneaston), who, 4 Edward II., 1310, had a grant of Stokes or Stocks, a place with which the family is intimately associated for many generations. He married Gweruilla, daughter and heiress of Roger Vychan, ap Sir Roger Powis, and their son and heir was Madoc Kynaston, who was living 47 Edward III., and who in 1341 had a grant in Gesnocks. Madoc married Cicely, daughter and heiress of Jenkin Frankton, lord of Welsh Frankton, and had a son John, or Jenkin, who was seneschal or constable of Ellesmere, and gave Petton to the Earl of Lancaster; he was living between 1373 and 1389, and married Agnes, daughter of Llewellin Dd'w ap Gruffith ap Jorwerth Voell of Abertanat; their son and heir Madoc Kynaston of Stokes is mentioned in 1389 and 1396, and was killed at the Battle of Shrewsbury; his coat of arms is among the emblazoned shields in Battlefield Church. Madoc had married Isolda, daughter of the Earl of Northumberland, who, as his widow, enfeoffed lands of Lye by Ellesmere in 1435; and was succeeded by his son John, who had a pardon from Henry IV. In 1409 he made a grant to two sons, John and Gaufrido; he was succeeded by his son, Griffin

Kynaston of Stokes, who was seneschal of Ellesmere in the reign of Henry VI., 1431-44. From this Griffin, who married Margaret, daughter and heiress of John Hord of Walford (who died in Ireland 20th July, 1398), sprung all the various branches of the family; his eldest son was Philip Kynaston of Walford, whose descendants held that place for four generations, ending in an heiress who married Ralph Clive; the second son was John, or Jenkin, Kynaston of Stokes, 1471-84, who married Jane, daughter of John Mainwaring, and was progenitor of the Kynastons of Oteley and the Kynastons of Pontesbury; the third son, William, was ancestor of the Kynastons of Ryton; and the fourth son, Roger, was a personage of great renown in the troublous times in which he lived. He was a zealous partisan of the House of York, and at the Battle of Bloreheath, 23rd September, 1459, he slew the Lancastrian leader, Lord Audley, and assumed his arms (ermine, a chevron, gules), which are quartered ever since by the Kynaston family, and borne as the chief coat by Kynaston of Hordley and Hardwick. At the field of Ludford, 12th October, 1459, he also appeared in arms against the King, but though he was included in the subsequent attainder by Henry's Parliament, yet so great was his popularity with the House of Commons that he, with Walter Hopton of Hopton Castle, and three others, was, at the especial prayer of the House, dismissed upon payment of a fine. Through the three succeeding reigns Sir Roger Kynaston (he had been knighted by Edward IV.) continued in favour and dignity. He had married for his first wife Elizabeth, daughter of Lord Cobham, and widow of Richard Lord Strange (who died 23 Hen. VI., 1450) by whom he had a son, Thomas; this lady died in 1453. Sir Roger was Sheriff of Shropshire in 1462 and 1470; he had a general pardon from the King, 13 Edward IV., and was Constable of Harlech, and Sheriff and Escheator of Merioneth for life. He married, secondly, Elizabeth, sister of Richard Grey, Lord Powis, 1465, daughter of Henry Grey, Earl of Tankerville,

by whom he had a son Humphrey. From this marriage comes the Kynaston claim to the dormant Barony of Powys.

By his first marriage, with the widow of Lord Strange, he acquired Middle Castle, which was her jointure; this place was fortified by John le Strange (or L'Estrange, as it is sometimes written), who had licence, 1 Edward II., to make a castle of his house at Mudle, which lay less exposed to the incursions of the Welsh than his Castles of Knockin and Ryton, which often felt the fury of that people. It was a quadrangular structure, two storeys high, with a flat roof; it had a square court inside, and was surrounded by a moat, which can still be traced. To the east of the castle, a moat enclosed about half an acre of ground, the entrance to which was by a gatehouse standing near the north-east corner of the castle moat, and near it was a drawbridge. After the death of his first wife, Roger Kynaston still retained possession of Middle, in defiance of John, Lord Strange, heir of her first husband, who was born in 1444. This young peer levied forces to expel Kynaston, and, as the latter was often resident in the county town, where he occupied what is now called the Council House, wrote a letter "fro the Castell of Hawerden the xth day of Janyvere," "to the worshipfull and wellbeloved the Baylles of the Towne of Shrovesbury with other and to all the Comons" asking their disposition "towchyng mine inheritaunce in the Marches of Wales, Flynt shyre [and] Shrop shyre that some tyme were my Lord my fadres and my noble Auncestoures by fore, whose sowles God rest, and shew grace to, that hit wolde wyst you to remembre the grete ontrowthe that hath be shewed, and dayly doth his powre by Rog' of Kynaston with other of his helpers ayenst my right, all lawe and conscience." Whether he obtained the aid he sought against his late stepmother's husband, or whether he secured the neutrality of the burgesses or not, he seems to have gained his inheritance, for Middle Castle passed with his other possessions to the Derby family by the

by whom he had a son Humphrey. From this marriage comes the Kynaston claim to the dormant Barony of Powys.

By his first marriage, with the widow of Lord Strange, he acquired Middle Castle, which was her jointure; this place was formerly the seat of John le Strange (or L'Estrange, as it is sometimes written), who had licence, [illegible] Edward II., to make a castle of his house at Middle, which lay [illegible] exposed to the incursions of the Welsh since the Castles of Knockin and Ruyton, which [illegible] fury of that people. "It was a quadrangular building, two storeys high, with a flat roof; it had a square court inside, and was surrounded by a moat, which may still be traced." To the east of the castle, a space enclosed about half an acre of ground, the entrance to which was by a particular standing near the north-east corner of the castle court, and [illegible] it was a dwelling. After the death of his first wife, Roger Kynaston still retained possession of Middle, in defiance of John, Lord Strange, [illegible] of her first husband, who was born in 1444. This young peer [illegible] to expel Kynaston, and as the latter was often resident in the county gaol, where he occupied what is now called the Council House, wrote a letter "To the Castell of Knockin the xii day of Feverere," "to the worshipfull and wellbeloved the Baillies of the Towne of Shrewsbury with others and to all the Comens" praying their cooperation "Lovyng [illegible] in the Marches of Wales, [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] my [illegible] and my [illegible] by him, [illegible] [illegible] and [illegible] that [illegible] [illegible] the [illegible] that [illegible] [illegible] and [illegible] the [illegible] of Kynaston [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] and [illegible]." Whether he [illegible] that [illegible] [illegible] his [illegible] [illegible] husband, or whether he [illegible] the [illegible] of the [illegible] or not, he seems to have [illegible] his [illegible] for Middle Castle passed with his other possessions to the Derby family by the

marriage of his heiress to George Stanley, though it was yet in the hands of his opponent, for we find him still there 6 Edward IV., 1466, when "Roger Kinaston de Midhall, Esq., late Sheriff (1462) of Shropshire, obtained the King's pardon." His second son, Humphrey also held it as Constable, after whose time Gough, who wrote in 1700, tells us that "this castle was never inhabited, but went utterly to ruine." This celebrated character, of whom we shall say more presently, died in 1534, and Leland, who saw the Castle four or five years later, describes it as then "veri ruinus," and as belonging to Lord Derby. Up to about 1641 a great portion of the walls was still standing; some of these, however, according to tradition, fell by an earthquake in 1688. Only a tower of red stone, with a spiral stair, and a few other fragments now remain, and these were repaired by Lord Alford some years ago; over the portal of the turret are the two lions passant of L'Estrange.

Sir Roger Kynaston died 11 Henry VII., 1495-6; as son and heir by his first wife Sir Thomas Kynaston of Hordley did homage, 22 Henry VII., for Ness Strange and Kynton, and he was Sheriff of Shropshire in 1507-8. His property at Hordley, not improbably, came to the family by marriage with the heiress of the Hordleys of Hordley, who, it is stated, married Sir — Kynaston, who lived in Edward IV.'s time, 1461-83. At all events, 16 Henry VI., 1437-8, the Hordley estate was placed by the King in trust to Thomas Walker for Johannes Hordeley, whose heiress may have married Sir — Kynaston. Sir Thomas Kynaston,[1] who died without legal issue, was buried in St. Mary's Church, Shrewsbury, 1513. His half-brother (son of Sir Roger by his second wife) Humphrey Kynaston was of Marton, but, as we have already seen, lived at Middle Castle; both he and his mother seem to have been in pecuniary distress, and there is in the Corporation

[1] He is, perhaps, the Thomas Kynaston of Lee, who had pardon and release 1 Henry VIII., 1509.

Records at Shrewsbury register of their joint bond for £20. The quaint historian of Middle says that he "for his dissolute and ryotous liveing was called the wild Humphry. Hee had two wives, but both of soe meane birth that they could not lay claime to any Coat of Armes, as appears by the card of Kinaston's Armes, which Mr. Edward Kinaston of Oateley shewed mee not long before his death. I have not heard of any children which wild Humphrey had, but I have heard of much debt that hee had contracted; and being outlawed in debt, hee left Myddle Castle (which he had suffered to grow ruinous for want of repaire), and went and sheltered himself in a Cave neare to Nescliffe, which to this day is called Kinaston's Cave, and of him the people tell almost as many romantick storyes as of the great outlawe Robin Whood."

Humphrey's first wife was Marion, daughter of William ap Griffith ap Robin, by whom he had a son and daughter. He seems to have been a warrior like his father Sir Roger, for among the banners of those who entered France 16 June, 1513, we find from Shropshire "Homffray Kynaston and Thomas Trentham a C men wyth owtten standert." His second wife was Elizabeth, daughter of Meredith ap Howell ap Maurice of Glascoed, ap Ievan Gethyn of Gartheyr, by whom he had three sons and two daughters; the second son was Roger, ancestor of the Kynastons of Marton and Crickett. "Wild Humphrey," who, as we have seen, was outlawed in 1491, was pardoned two years after; the pardon, under the Great Seal, is still preserved at Hardwick. He died 1534, so that the well-known "H. K. 1564" in the cave at Nesscliff appears to be the fabrication of a later hand. His son and heir, Edward Kynaston of Hordley, was also twice married; one wife was a cousin, Margaret, daughter of Humphrey Kinaston[1] of Stokes; the other was Margaret, daughter

[1] A contemporary and second cousin of Wild Humphrey, with whom he is sometimes confused.

of Edward Lloyd of Llwynymaen, by whom he had a large family. This gentleman claimed the Barony of Powis, and in satisfaction for his claims on the Powis estates received in 1568 from his relative Edward Grey the manors of Plas-y-Dinas and Trewern, co. Montgomery. In his time the Barony was also claimed (1584) by Henry Vernon of Stoke Say, Esq., as representative of Elizabeth, supposed *daughter* of Richard Grey, Lord Powis. The claim was referred by Lord Burghley to the Heralds' College for genealogical investigation, with the following result:—"Wee (R. Clarencieux and R. Glover Somerset) have accordingly made diligent search among the records of our office, but do not fynde any daughter of the later Lords of Powis other than Elizabeth, daughter of Henry, and *sister* to Richard, Lord Powis, w'ch was married to Roger Kinaston, of whom other of the Kynastons are descended."

Edward Kynaston died 1594, being succeeded by his son Roger Kynaston of Hordley, who married Margaret, daughter of John Vaughan of Llwydiart,[1] co. Montgomery, by whom he had one son and three daughters. In 1588 he contributed £25 towards the defence against the Spanish invasion; in 1602 he was Sheriff of Shropshire, and proclaimed James I. at Shrewsbury. He died 1608,[2] succeeded by his son Edward Kynaston of Hordley, Sheriff of Montgomeryshire 1623; he married Mary, daughter of Thomas Owen, Esq., of Condover, Judge of the King's Bench, by whom he had a daughter and two sons; he died 1631, aged 73, and his widow was buried at Hordley, 29 Jan., 1668. His heir, Roger Kynaston of Hordley, was baptized at Condover, 8 Feb., 1610 and married, in 1635, Rebecca, daughter of Sir John Weld, Knight, Town Clerk of London; this

[1] The marriage settlement is said to be dated 26 Eliz., 6 Dec., 1583; but if so, he must have been married previously to a lady not recorded, as his son and heir Edward was born in 1558.

[2] Will at Somerset House 17 Feb., 1608 (100 Windebank).

lady died 1656, being buried at Hordley, 13 June. He was Sheriff of Shropshire 1540; and compounded to the Parliament for his estates for £921, being, like his relative at Oteley, a royalist; he was buried at Hordley, 25 Sept., 1684. He had three daughters, Mary, who died 1672; Elizabeth, married to Robert Corbet of Lee and Albright Hussey; and Rebecca, married 10 Dec., 1658, to Richard Mytton of Halston; his son and heir Edward, was born 25 March, 1640.

Edward Kynaston of Hordley, was Mayor of Shrewsbury, 1664, and represented the Borough in the Parliaments of 1679, 1681, and 1685; he married Amy, daughter and heiress of Thomas Barker of Haghmond Abbey and Albrightlee. This lady, who was baptized at Astley, 13 Nov., 1638, was the last of the Barkers, who had held the Haghmond and other estates of Sir Rowland Hill for five generations; her father, who had married Margaret, daughter of Edward Owen of Albrightlee, was nephew of Walter Barker (Sheriff 1621), who had married Dame Ursula Owen; he died 10 May, 1652; and this marriage brought a large accession of property to Mr. Kynaston, who took up his residence at Albrightlee, an ancient mansion within the liberties of Shrewsbury. He took an active part in the concerns of the Corporation of the county town, of which he was Alderman in 1685. He had five sons and two daughters; his wife died in 1672, and was buried 9 June; he survived until 1693, being buried at Hordley, 5 August in that year.

The heir, John Kynaston, who was born 1664, still further increased the Kynaston domains by his marriage 22 Sept., 1686, with Beatrice, daughter of Sir Vincent Corbet, second baronet, and sister and heiress of Sir Vincent Corbet, third baronet, of Moreton Corbet and Acton Reynald. This lady was born 1668, and had two sons and one daughter; she died 1703, and was buried at Moreton Corbet, 7 Dec. In 1695 he was elected M.P. for Shrewsbury, being described as "John Kynaston, esq., of Acton Reignold, within the liberty

of the town of Shrewsbury;" and he sat in five Parliaments until 1708. He was Sheriff 1690, and Mayor of Shrewsbury 1696, and is known as the leader of the Shropshire Tories. He built the family residence at Hardwick, and preferred an unsuccessful claim to the Barony of Powys 1731. By his first wife he had Corbet Kynaston, eldest son, Francis Kynaston of Acton Reynald, who died 1697, and Beatrice, who died unmarried 1711. He married secondly, 27 Oct., 1708, Anne, daughter of Thomas Harwood of Tern, which lady was born 30 November, 1689, and by whom he had two sons and two daughters. She is said to have frequently carried over to Flanders the contributions of the Shropshire Jacobites for the Court of St. Germains. Mr. John Kynaston died 10 September, 1733, aged 69, and was buried in the family vault at Hordley five days later.

Corbet Kynaston, the eldest son, succeeded to the large estates, Hordley, Haghmond, and Moreton Corbet; he was baptized at Shawbury, 2 Feb., 1690; he was M.P. for Shrewsbury from 1713 to 1722. In the latter year he again contested the Borough and headed the poll, but was "voted out upon petition by the disfranchisement of the Abbey Foregate."[1] His electioneering expenses were very heavy; these and his speculations in South Sea Stock caused his retirement to the Continent. Mr. Joseph Morris, who had seen Mr. Kynaston's correspondence[2] with his confidential friends in 1723 and 1724, says—"His connection with the Stock of the South Sea Company had led him into an expensive Chancery Suit with Sir John Astley. His father, Mr. John Kynaston, had assisted him with funds for the election of 1713, but he refused to aid him in 1722, after promising to do so. This, probably, was the reason why he eventually devised a large portion of

[1] O. and B. *History of Shrewsbury*, i., 552.

[2] By the kindness of Mr. Adnitt I have had opportunity of reading Morris's copies of this highly interesting correspondence.

his estates to his kinsmen, the Corbets of Hall of Hussey, instead of leaving to his half-brothers, Edward and Roger Kynaston, the property thus alienated."[1]

During the rejoicings at his safe return from France, 1730, the great bell of Shrewsbury Abbey was broken. He seems to have had a residence in the Abbey parish, for in 1737 was privately printed a "Singular Appeal made by the Mayor and Aldermen of Shrewsbury to the House of Lords for the Removal of Corbet Kynaston from the office of Alderman on the grounds that he did not [?] in accordance with an ancient charter have residence in either the parishes of Holy Cross, St. Giles, Merrival, with a copy of Kynaston's memorial." From Phillips's *History of Shrewsbury* (1779, p. 186) we learn that "The Mandamus Cause, which had been brought to trial in 1733 and passed by the Judges, was this year [1735] tried by Corbet Kynaston, Esq., in the Court of King's Bench. He gained his point, which occasioned great rejoicings in the town and country about Shrewsbury; but the Corporation threw in a writ of error, determining to appeal to the House of Lords, yet this determination appears to be superseded, by a flaw or error in the first judgment, upon which the Corporation refused to admit Mr. Kynaston. He brought on a trial at common law to recover costs, but was non-suited on account of the jury being chose by the Sheriff, whereas they should have been chose by the Coroners. It is observable that the jury in 1732 were chose by the Coroners, and the trial put off because they were not chose by the Sheriff. Mr. Kynaston the following year brought on a trial at common law, but did not gain his point; he moved again at the King's Bench, but that Court stopt the proceeding." After these important struggles, in which he spent a large sum, he thus failed in his attempt to support the

[1] At the death of his father in 1733, the *Gentleman's Magazine* that year says an estate of £8,000 a year fell to Corbet Kynaston.

cause of the Freemen, and after his death the dispute lay dormant till 1771, when Sir William Pulteney took it up, and the matter was finally determined 19 November, 1774, in favour of the inhabitants (against the Corporation).

Mr. Kynaston had commenced, perhaps in consequence of the above proceedings, to build a residence in St. Mary's parish, on the town wall;[1] it was a spacious and even handsome structure, in a beautiful and salubrious situation, but his death in 1740 prevented the completion of his design, for little more was finished than the shell, even the windows were not put in, and the openings were filled with broom, whence it was usually denominated *Broom Hall*.[2] The building was subsequently used as the Salop Infirmary.

From 1734 Mr. Corbet Kynaston represented the county[3] in the House of Commons until his death 17 June, 1740; he was unmarried, and was buried at Moreton Corbet, 21 June. By his will 1734, and codicil 1738, he devised the Haghmond estates to his cousin Andrew Corbet of Lee and Albright Hussey, and they now form the possession of the Corbets of Sundorne. The Moreton Corbet and Acton Reynald estates of his mother went to another kinsman, Andrew Corbet of Shawbury, from whom the present owner, Sir Walter Orlando Corbet, Bart., is descended. The patrimonial estates went to his half-brother, Edward Kynaston.

Edward Kynaston of Hordley and Hardwick, was the elder son of John, by his second wife Anne, who

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[1] Phillips mentions "a grant from the Corporation to John Kynaston, Esq., of leave to build on the Town Wall;" and *A Journey through England*, published 1723, says that "My Lord Newport, son to the Earl of Bradford, hath a handsome palace, with hanging gardens down to the river; as also hath Mr. Kinnaston, and some other gentlemen."

[2] MS. note of Archdeacon Owen.

[3] His electioneering colours were red and green.

survived her husband and this son, dying 21 October, 1773; he was baptized 20 October, 1709, and married Victoria, daughter of Sir Charles Lloyd, Bart., of Garth; he was M.P. for Montgomeryshire, and died childless; buried at Hordley, 25 May, 1772.

His brother, Roger Kynaston of Shrewsbury, succeeded him. This gentleman was born 8 March, 1710, and baptized at St. Mary's, Shrewsbury; he was noted for his zeal and activity in promoting every useful and beneficial undertaking in the town and neighbourhood of his residence, which seems to have been in the Abbey Foregate. The re-building of the Stone (English) Bridge was greatly due to his exertions; the Salop Infirmary also owed much to him, and he was probably the means of securing his half-brother's unfinished mansion for that institution, which was opened for patients 25 April, 1747. At its first anniversary, the plates were held by Mrs. Wolley and Miss Wingfield, supported by Thomas Hunt, jun., Esq., and Roger Kynaston, Esq. He married Mary, daughter of Henry Powell of Worthen, an heiress who brought further estates to the Kynastons. By this lady, who died 1766, aged 43 (she was buried at St. Mary's, Shrewsbury, 19 March), he had four sons; he died 13 September, 1788, aged 77, and was succeeded by his eldest son.

John Kynaston, Esq., of Hardwick, was baptized at the Abbey Church, Shrewsbury, 5 March, 1753; in 1797 he assumed his mother's name, Powell; he was Colonel of Volunteers in 1803, and was created a Baronet, 3 October, 1818, as Sir John Kynaston Powell. He was M.P. for the county 38 years, and married, 19 February, 1778, Mary Elizabeth, daughter of John Corbet of Sundorn, which lady was born 14 July, 1754; he died childless at Hardwick, 24 October, 1822, aged 70, when the title and estates passed to his surviving brother, who was in holy orders, and one of the King's domestic chaplains.

The Rev. Sir Edward Kynaston, second baronet, bap. at St. Julian's, Jan. 15, 1758, was ninth in descent

from Roger Kynaston, Sheriff in 1462; he married, 9 December, 1783, Letitia, daughter of Robert Owen of Pontesbury (Whitley), and had two sons, one of whom, Roger, died in childhood, August, 1788, and one daughter. Sir Edward died April, 1839, and was succeeded by his son, Sir John Roger Kynaston, third baronet, who had matriculated at Christ Church, Oxford, 24 October, 1816, being then aged nineteen. He died s.p. 1866, when the estates passed to his sister and sole heiress, Amy, who had married the Rev. Evelyn Levett Sutton, rector of High Halden, and vicar of St. Peter, Thanet. At the death of Mrs. Sutton, her cousin, the Rev. Walter Charles Edward Owen, succeeded to the Hardwick estates, and by royal licence 2 June, 1868, assumed the name and arms of Kynaston. This gentleman, who is the present owner of the Kynaston property, was born 22 June, 1830, and married Frances Harriett, daughter of Bedell Stanford of Carn, Co. Cavan, and has a son, Walter Roger Owen Kynaston, born 1 March, 1874, and three daughters, Amy Frances, Maud, and Marian. Miss Amy Frances Kynaston married her cousin, the Rev. Loftus Meade Owen, 11 July, 1893.

The new Domesday Book gives the Kynaston estates in Shropshire as 3,518 acres, rented at £5,429. The family seat at Hardwick, built by John Kynaston in 1733, is of red brick with stone facings, in Queen Anne style; the front originally faced the south, but Sir John Roger Kynaston diverted the drive to the present principal entrance on the north side, forming terraces and flower gardens on the south side instead. He also added the bay which forms the study at the south-east corner. A detached block on the western side comprises the stables; the kitchen offices form a corresponding block to the east. Built out at the north-east corner of the mansion is the dining room, where hang several family portraits, including two oval half lengths of Roger Kynaston and Mary his wife, by Sir Joshua Reynolds, 1759. There is here a portrait on panel of

Judge Owen, who built Condover Hall, and of Sir John Kynaston Powell, also two portraits by Allan Ramsay. Two cups at Hardwick are inscribed with records of the deaths of members of the family, on the Monumental Cup being 67 obits, and on the Pindar Cup 11 others.

WENLOCK CORPORATION RECORDS.

By H. F. J. VAUGHAN, B.A., S.C.L., Oxon.

The following extracts from the Registers of the Corporation of the Borough of Wenlock contain interesting allusions to many members of families of importance in our county, and are in themselves worthy of preservation as records of the manners of our forefathers. The entries speak for themselves, but a slight notice may be given of some who are named in them in the order in which they occur.

8 Ed. IV. John Lawley, the bayliff, and Thomas Lawley were of a family intimately connected with Wenlock, holding a high position there, and progenitors of the Lords Wenlock. Edmund Benethale was son of John Benethale or Benthall, of Benthall in 1399, and married Margaret, daughter of Edmund Leighton of Wattlesburgh. His grandson William built the present Hall at that place.

8 Hy. VII. William Charlton, probably William Charlton of Apley Castle, near Wellington, who married Alice, daughter of Thomas Hoorde of Bridgnorth, and died 23 Henry VIII.

9 Hy. VII. Thomas Laken seems to be the son of Richard Lacon or Laken of Willey, and Alice, daughter of Thomas Hoorde of Bridgnorth (Ad. MS. 14,314 Brit. Mus., calls him Sir Richard, and his wife Alice, daughter of John Howrd, Esq.). It would appear that he was subsequently knighted, since he is entered in the Shropshire Visitation, 1623, as Thomas Lacon de Willey in com. Salop, miles, and in Sir Thos. Boteler's Register we have the entry—1545, May 8, Rychard

harp mynstrell and servaunt to Sir Thos. Lacon and to his son Ryc(hard) buried. The family of Lacon, one of the chief families of our county, obtained the Willey estate by descent, the above-mentioned Sir Richard being son of William Lacon (who had succeeded his elder brother Sir Richard, who obt. s.p.), by Magdalen, daughter of Richard Wysham of Holt, co. Worcester, son of Sir Richard Lacon, Sheriff of Salop in 1415, by Elizabeth, daughter and heir of Sir Hamon Peshall, whose wife Alice was sole daughter and heir of Robert de Harley, son of Sir Robert by Margaret, elder daughter and coheir of Brian de Brampton, son (or grandson Harl. MS. 1241) of Sir Richard de Harley, Sheriff of Shropshire in 1301, by Burga, daughter and heir of Andrew de Willey or Wililey. The Lacons were heirs of a moiety of the Barony of Corbet of Cause, and so connected with the great house of Stafford. They retained the Willey estate until about the year 1617, when Sir Thomas sold it to John (afterwards Sir John) Weld, from whose descendants it passed by will to the family of Forester. The Lacons were steady adherents to the ancient faith, and seem to have suffered much during the times of persecution by the penal laws. A junior branch of the family seated at Linley continued to enjoy their estate to a later period. Another branch obtained, by marriage with the heiress, the estate of Llanddyn, part of the domain of Castell Dinas Bran, Co. Denbigh, which has descended to Lord Harlech.

11 Henry VII. Nicholas Corbyn would appear to have been Nicholas Corbyn of Corbyn's Hall, in the parish of Old Swinford, who became possessed of New Hall End, Co. Warwick. The family was also connected with Shropshire by the marriage of John Luttley with Elizabeth, daughter and heir of Thomas Corbyn and Elizabeth, coheir of Giles Filylode. John Lee of Nordley, Co. Salop, also married Elizabeth, daughter and heir of Thomas Corbyn. The families of Lee and Corbyn were related through the Astleys of Astley, near Bridgnorth. Az. a cinquefoil pierced erm.

within a bordure engrailed of the 2nd. The family of Legg or Legge was connected at an early period with Broseley and the neighbourhood, and members of it, though in a humble sphere of life, continue to reside there, it is believed, at the present day.

12 Henry VII. Richard Haughton or Houghton, was probably a descendant of Roger Houghton of Swynney, near Broseley, whose grandson Roger (son of Roger) held lands in Beckbury.

3 Henry VIII. Richard Harnage of Sheynton was probably the son of Giles Harnage, by Ellena, daughter of Thomas Kynaston of Walford, and grandson of Richard by a daughter of Oteley of Oteley, son of Hugh of Harnage, Bayliff of Bridgnorth in 1403, by Margery his wife, daughter of Sir Richard Lacon. Richard Foster of Evelyn, an estate near Shiffnall, now usually called Evelith, though the family of Evelyn still extant in Surrey, and also that of Sir John Evelyn of West Dean, Co. Wilts, whose daughter and heir, Elizabeth, became the wife of Robert Pierpoint, and mother of Evelyn, first Duke of Kingston, and owner of Tong Castle, is said to have taken its name from this manor, which has recently by purchase passed into the family of Kenyon-Slaney. The Richard Forster here mentioned seems to be Richard, son of John Forster of Evelith, and Isabella, daughter of [Richard] Kyffin of Abertanat.

17 Henry VIII. Lawrence Ludlow, the son of Maurice Ludlow of Stokesay, by Constance, daughter of Sir Piers Griffith, and grandson, according to Dugdale, of John Ludlow, by Elizabeth, daughter of Richard Grey, Lord Powis. His daughter Jane married Richard Benthall of Benthall, and his nephew Humphrey married Dorothy, daughter of Thomas Vernon, younger son of Sir Henry Vernon, who re-built Tong Castle in 1500. Their heiress Elizabeth married Humphrey Hill of Hill's Court.

28 Henry VIII. Richard Lacon of Willey, was Sheriff of Salop in 1540, and married Agnes, daughter

of Sir John Blount of Kinlet, which match may have influenced Sir George Blount, brother of this Agnes, in devising the Kinlet estate to the Lacons, though he himself had a daughter and heir, Dorothy, wife firstly of John Purslow of Sudbury, Co. Salop, by whom she had issue; and secondly of Edward Bullock of Bradeley, near Wenlock.

29 Henry VIII. Richard Wrottesley seems to have been a younger son of the Wrottesleys of Wrottesley. Walter Wrottesley of Wrottesley, son of Richard by Dorothy Sutton, was Sheriff of Shropshire in the 9th, 29th, and 33rd years of Henry VIII., and died in 1549. In the *Transactions* of the Salt Society, vol. v., a document is quoted, Banco Roll, Trin. Term, 9 Ed. II., Staff., which seems to show that this family is a branch of the ancient house of Verdon. Sir Hugh Wrottesley, 21 Ed. III., had licence to make a park at Wrottesley, which has continued to be the residence of the family to the present time. John Smallman was, probably, one of the family seated at Wilderhope or Wildertop.

32 Henry VIII. Rowland, Lord Bishop of Lichfield, was Rowland Lee, some time president of the Court of the Marches. His sister Isabella, daughter and heir of William Lee of Morpeth, married Roger Fowler of Broomhill, from whom descended the Fowlers of Broomhill, the Fowlers of Pendeford, the Fowlers of St. Thomas', in the county of Stafford, and the Fowlers of Harnage Grange, in Shropshire.

34 Henry VIII. Richard Lee of Langley, son of Thomas Lee by Jane, daughter of Sir Robert Corbet of Morton (whose wife was Elizabeth, daughter of Sir Henry Vernon of Haddon Hall, and Tong Castle, by his wife Lady Anne Talbot, daughter of John, second Earl of Shrewsbury), and grandson of Fulke Lee, by Alice, daughter of Sir Richard Cornwall, who was the son of Richard Lee of Langley, by Margaret or Margery, daughter and coheir of Sir Fulke Sprencheaux, lord of the Manor of Beymishall or Donington, near Albrighton, Shropshire. His sisters married into the families of

Plowden of Plowden, Morton of Haughton, Corbet of Longnor, Bostock of Say, Purcell of Sherne and More. Richard Lee himself married Eleanor, daughter of Walter Wrottesley of Wrottesley, and his daughter Katherine married John Hayward, a name we meet with in these Registers.

38 Henry VIII. Thomas Lawley, second son of John Lawley of Wenlock, and Mary, daughter of Thomas Cressett of Upton Cressett, married Beatrix, daughter and coheir of Griffith Hinton of Hinton. His son Thomas married Elizabeth, daughter of Richard Newport of Ercal, and was buried at Gnosall, co. Staff., 1621. Robert Lakyn or Lacon may be Robert, son and heir of Edward Lacon, second son of Sir Richard Lacon of Willey, by Alice, daughter of Sir Thomas Hoorde. The family of Heynes, derived from Trahaiarn ab Pasgen ab Gwyn, Lord of Guilsfield, was not only connected with Broseley, but also Stretton and Betton. It would appear that there were two families of Adams near Broseley, one deriving from Cleeton, near Bitterley, in South Shropshire, and another coming from the neighbourhood of Newport, in Shropshire, which latter bore ermine three cats a mountain passt. guardt. in pale azure. Richard Bentall of Bentall or Benthall was buried on the 6th July, 1575, and married Jane, daughter of Lawrence Ludlow of Moorhouse (Argt. a lion rampt. sa. vulned all over gu.) and was buried 26 Oct., 1597.

5 Edward VI. Edmond Sprott. The name is by Erdeswick derived from Wolfric Sprot, Earl of Mercia, who with Alswitha his wife founded Burton Abbey, Co. Staff. The name frequently appears in the Registers of Wenlock, and the family is still extant. Not unfrequently the spelling is Spratt; thus William Spratt of Wigwig, married Margaret, daughter of John Chelmick of Chelmick, by Ioan, daughter of William Thinne de Botville, son of William Chelmick of Ragdon, by Sibilla, daughter and heir of Richard Wilcocks of Stretton.

Plowden of Plowden, Morton of Haughton, Corbet of Longnor, Eyton of Eyton, Purcell of Shrewsbury and [illegible]. Richard Lee himself married Eleanor, daughter of Walter Wrottesley of Wrottesley, and his daughter Katherine married John Hayward, a name we meet with in these Registers.

16 Henry VIII. Thomas Lakin, second son of John Lakin of Wenlock, and Mary, daughter of Thomas [illegible] of Upton Cressett, married Grace, daughter and heiress of [illegible] Hinton of Hinton. His son Thomas married Elizabeth, daughter of Richard Newport of Eyton, and was buried at Wenlock on [illegible], 1591. Robert Lacon of Linley was buried [illegible], son and heir of Edward Lacon, second son of Sir Richard Lacon of Willey, by Alice, daughter of Sir Thomas Hoorde. The family of Lacon, derived from [illegible] at [illegible], Lord of [illegible], was not only connected with Broseley, but also Kinlet and Linley. It would appear that there were two families of Lacon near Wenlock, one deriving from Lacon near [illegible], in North Shropshire, and another coming from the neighbourhood of Newport, in Shropshire, which latter were [illegible] three and a [illegible] in their name. Richard [illegible] of [illegible] of [illegible] was buried on the [illegible] July, 1575, and married Anne, daughter of Lawrence Ludlow of [illegible], a [illegible] who [illegible] all [illegible] and was buried 30 Dec., 1597.

3 Edward VI. Edmund Sprott. The name is by [illegible] derived from Walter Spark, [illegible] of [illegible] who with [illegible] founded Buildwas Abbey, Co. Salop. The name frequently occurs in the Registers of Wenlock, and the family is still extant. Not infrequently the spelling is Sparck. John Wolverhampton of Wigwig, married Margaret, daughter of John [illegible] of [illegible], by Joan, daughter of William [illegible] de [illegible], son of William [illegible] of [illegible] by [illegible], daughter and heir of [illegible] of Stretton.

5 Eliz. Roland Lacon was of Willey, and Sheriff of Shropshire in 1571. He married Ellen or Eleanor, daughter of William Rigges of Straglethorpe, Co. Lincoln, by Anne, daughter of . . . . . Babington of London (Harl. MS. 1550). Rigges bears gu. a fess ermine inter 3 talbots statant arg., each holding an arrow in its jaws. The cruel penal laws against adherents of the old faith were passed by Parliament about this time, separating the English people into distinct sections. Some of them still remain, which, it is to be hoped, a more enlightened Parliament may abolish, and establish real religious equality instead of only an ideal one. These legal enactments affected the family of Lacon strongly since they thought the old religion not only a better one to die in, but also to live in, and consequently we find them in future allying themselves with those who held the same opinion.

7 Eliz. Thomas Ludlow of Moorhouse, was eldest son of Lawrence Ludlow, and married Katherine, daughter of Thomas Farley, but died without issue. Ralph Eyton may have been a member of the family of Eyton-on-the-Wildmoors, since they were connected at this time with the neighbourhood by the marriage of Elizabeth, daughter of Thomas Eyton of Eyton, Sheriff of Salop 1567, and M.P. for Wenlock, with Rowland, third son of Lawrence Ludlow, so that she thus became, by marriage, sister-in-law of Richard Benthall of Benthall, son of William, builder of the present hall at Benthall.

10 Eliz. John Broke, bayliff, was probably John Brooke, son of Sir Robert Brooke of Madeley. He died circa 1598, leaving by his wife Anne, daughter of Francis Shirley of Staunton Harold, Co. Leicester, two sons and three daughters.

A.D. 1575. Richard Lutley seems to have been the second son of John Lutley by Katherine, daughter of William Jenkes, and grandson of William by Elizabeth, daughter of John Ringley, whose father, John Lutley, married Elizabeth, daughter and heir of Thomas Corbyn,

by Elizabeth, daughter and coheir of Gyles Filylode of Alveley. Richard Lutley had by his wife Jane, daughter of William English, three sons, who died without issue, and two daughters, coheirs, Margaret, wife of George Jenkes of Wollerton, and Francis, wife of Thomas Littleton.

20 Eliz. Lawrence Benthall, named, doubtlessly, after his maternal grandfather. Lawrence Ludlow was buried 8 Nov., 1603, and married Cicely Forster, whom an old MS. formerly in Lord Berwick's collection, calls daughter of Richard Forster of Evelith, and with this Harl. MS. 1396 and other MSS. agree; but upon turning to the Forster pedigree, Cicely is called daughter of George Forster of Evelith, and sister of Joyce, wife of John Benthall, brother of Lawrence. There was no Richard Forster *of Evelith* in the same generation as George Forster. His second cousin bore the name of Richard, but is designated of Tong. He married Elizabeth, daughter of . . . . Blakeway of Berrington, and his daughters' names are not mentioned; but if Cicely was one of them, then she was first cousin to Isabel, wife of Edward, Lord Stafford. On the other hand, George Forster's son was Richard, and he was of Evelith, but it scarcely seems likely that the elder brother Lawrence Benthall should marry the niece of his younger brother's wife. The former Richard seems the more probable one, and his father Robert, who married Catherine, daughter of William Barker of Coulsedge, is sometimes designated "of Evelith," as well as "of Tong." It is difficult to identify the Thomas and two Richard Addamses mentioned under this date. Thomas Adams of Cleeton, who married Margaret, daughter of John Harley of Brampton, was living in 1584, and had a son Thomas. Thomas, third son of William Adams of Cleeton, had a son Thomas. Thomas, eldest son of John Adams of Broseley, by Alianor, daughter of . . . Crump of Staffordshire, died in 1651, but he would be rather late. There is also Thomas Adams of Broseley, son of Richard Adams of

Ashton, Co. Salop, who married Joyce, daughter of Edward Smalman of Neenton, Co. Salop, but his descendants bore ermine three cats a mountain pass. guard. in pale az., and indeed the heiress of the line married William Crompton. There are also many Richard Adamses on record.

A.D. 1587. William Fowler was the third son of Roger Fowler of Broomhill, by Isabella, sister and heir of Rowland Lee, Bishop of Lichfield. He purchased the estate of Harnage Grange. This was formerly one of the estates of Buildwas Abbey, and Blakeway in his *Sheriffs of Shropshire* says that William Fowler purchased the estate "from William Grey, the illegitimate heir male of Lord Grey, to whom Henry VIII. granted that Monastery." The name of Lord Grey's illegitimate son, to whom most of the estate descended, was Edward, as may be seen from his will. William Fowler married Mary, daughter of John Blythe, M.D., and the Harnage estate remained in the family until after much litigation it was sold in the present century, and is now the property of Sir Henry H. Edwards, Bart.

30 Eliz. Francis Lacon, afterwards Sir Francis, son of Rowland Lacon of Willey, was of Kinlet, and Sheriff of Shropshire in 1612. His younger brother Thomas was of Linley, and his sisters Jane and Beatrix married respectively Sir Richard Fermor of Somerton, and Sir Francis Newport of High Ercal. The family of Fermor of Somerton, and afterwards of Tusmore, Co. Oxon, were connected with Shropshire by the marriage of Frances, daughter and heir of Thomas Hoorde of Hoorde's Park, with Thomas Fermor of Somerton, her first husband having been Edward Rawleigh of Farningho, Co. Norfolk. This Thomas Fermor was a younger son of Richard Fermor, so cruelly treated by Henry VIII. for denying the Royal supremacy, and was the first master of Henry's celebrated jester, Will. Somers. Sir Richard Fermor was son of Thomas, and married Cornelia, daughter and coheir of Sir William Cornwallis of Brome Hall, Suffolk, by Lucy, eldest daughter and coheir

of John Nevill, Lord Latimer, by whom he had Henry, who succeeded him. Sir Richard's sister Mary was the wife of Francis Plowden of Plowden. Thus it is evident that this family of Fermor had an early connection with Shropshire. Sir Francis Lacon himself married Jane Browne, daughter of Anthony, Viscount Montague, of Cowdray Park, Sussex, by his second wife Magdalen, daughter of William, Lord Dacre, of Gillesland, obt. 6 Elizabeth, which William, Lord Dacre, married Elizabeth, daughter of George Talbot, fourth Earl of Shrewsbury, and was himself son of Thomas, Lord Dacre, obt. 1526, by Elizabeth, daughter and heir of Robert, obt. vi pat, son and heir of Ralph, Lord Greystoke, by Elizabeth, daughter of Lord Fitzhugh. The connection of these several families with Shropshire was kept up, and gave rise to frequent inter-marriages. John Lutwyche was, probably, the son of Thomas Lutwyche by Margaret, daughter of John Adams of Barrow, near Wenlock, though he might have been John, sixth son of Richard Lutwyche of Lutwyche Hall, by Elizabeth, daughter of Roger Boycott, which John was of Lincoln's Inn in 1586. Thomas Lockyer was lord of the Marsh, and married Anne, daughter of Ralph, brother of Thomas Poyner, apparently of Beslow. There are, however, two Thomas Poyners, father and son, the former of whom married Isabel, daughter of Thomas Leighton of Leighton, in 1509, and the latter married Ellen, daughter of Fulke Lee of Langley, in 1533. Thomas Lokyer must therefore have been either cousin or nephew of Lucy Poyner, who married William Beist of Atcham. Thomas Lokyer, the son of Thomas and Anne, married Katherine, daughter of Edward Smalman of Wildertop, Wilderhope, or as in a MS. in the College of Arms, Wildearthope; she would, therefore, be sister to Joyce Smalman, previously mentioned as wife of Thomas Adams, and aunt of Stephen Smalman who married Jane, daughter of Francis Lawley of Sponhill, Mary, wife of John Adams of Cleeton, and Anne, wife of Richard Harris of Cruckton, brother of

Sir Thomas Harries, who purchased Tong Castle from Sir Edward Stanley.

31 Eliz. The name of Richard Ould of Broseley, occurs as a disclaimer in 1623, and it is, probably, his daughter Mary who is entered in the MS. Visitation in the School Library at Shrewsbury, as third wife of Fulk, son of Thomas Crompton of Acton Burnell. The family was subsequently much connected with Broseley, where they lived and held a good position. William Wood, the bayliff of this year was, probably, a member of the family of Wood of Shinewood. He may have been William, who died without issue, and whose elder brother, Peter Wood, is said in an old parchment pedigree of the family, to have married firstly Judith, daughter of John Heath of Orton (Overton?), Co. Chester, and secondly, Frances, youngest daughter of Thomas Astley of Patshull. By the first wife he had issue, two sons and seven daughters. The eldest son Alexander, aged 8, in 1623 married firstly Margery, daughter of Walter Astley of Patshull, and had by her three sons and five daughters. The eldest son Basill married on the 5th August, 1680, Abigail, daughter of Robert Leighton of Wattlesburgh, the second son Lawrence had an only daughter, Dorothy, buried at St. Chad's Church, Shrewsbury, having become the wife of Adam Waring of Lincoln's Inn and Woodcote, Salop, and mother of Dorothy, wife of John Scott of Shrewsbury. The name of Thomas Lockyer is here spelt "Locor."

32 Eliz. John Langley is identified with John Langley of the Amies, buried at Broseley, 27 April, 1603, in an account of the family kindly lent to the writer by A. F. C. C. Langley, Esq. He was the son of Edmund de Langley of the Amies, son of John de Langley, 21 Henry VI., and Elizabeth, sister of Edmund Michell, a monk of Buildwas Abbey, and afterwards Parson of Broseley. The *Visitation of Shropshire* calls this John son of William, son of John, son of William de Langley, 1 Richard II., who married Isabel,

sister and heir of Stephen de Henley. John Langley married Elizabeth, daughter and heir of John Marston and Elizabeth, daughter of Hugh Harnage of Belswardine, who was Bailiff of Bridgnorth in 1403, and Burgess of Parliament in 1402 and 1419. He married Margaret, daughter of Sir Richard Lacon of Willey.

34 Eliz. This William Hord or Hoorde appears to be second son of John Hoorde of Park Bromage, Co. Salop, by Catherine, daughter of Adam Oteley of Pichford. He married Elizabeth, daughter of Gyles Harnage of Shenton, by Elena, daughter of Thomas Kynaston of Walford.

36 Eliz. Francis Langley of the Tuckies, near Broseley, married Elizabeth, daughter of Richard Selman of Harrington, Co. Salop, by Isabel, daughter of Robert Amias of Kemberton. The family of Old continued to hold land at Broseley until comparatively modern times, and that of Cryppin was still extant in the last century. Lawrence Benthall was the grandson of William, who built the present Benthall Hall in 1535, and himself commands our sympathy from the tragic fate of his son Edward.

38 Eliz. Thomas Holland was of the Middle Temple, and his son William married Margaret, daughter of Thomas Smallman of Wildertop, another of whose daughters, Mary, was wife of John Adams of Cleeton. There was, therefore, a connection between these families. Francis Smallman seems to be the younger brother of this Thomas. It is difficult to identify Thomas Adams since there are several members of the family named Thomas at about this date.

39 Eliz. William Corfield of Longwall, belongs to a family which did not enter their pedigree in the Heralds' Visitations of Shropshire, but by the courtesy of a correspondent I am enabled to give the following account of the family :—

I.—Edward held Corve in Staunton Lacy.

II.—Ralph Fitz Edward 1180.

III.—Thomas.

IV.—Philip married Juliana Staunton.

V.—William de Corfhull.

VI.—1 Roger. 2 Richard 1260.

VII.—Roger 1274.

VIII.—Roger 1320, 1344.

IX.—Reginald de Corvehill 1328, 1338, married Edith.

X.—1 Sir Roger, Priest, of Easthope, 1349. 2 Richard of Much Wenlock, married Cecily, daughter of Sir Nicholas Strelly, Kt., buried at Cardington.

XI.—Richard (son of Richard 2), married Margaret Corbet.

XII.—Richard de Corfhill married Margaret Kindersley.

XIII.—Richard of Stanton Long, married Margaret Churchman of Cardington.

XIV.—Richard Corfield of Corfield Longville and Chatwall, married Abigail, d. of John Lutwich of Lutwich. There were two members of the family of Lutwyche bearing the Christian name of John about this time, mentioned in the Visitations of Salop, viz., John (who married Katherine, daughter of William Pawle, by whom he left issue) son of Thomas Lutwiche by Margaret, daughter of John Adams of Barrow, near Wenlock, younger son of Richard Lutwich of Lutwich Hall, in Munslow, by Agnes his wife. The other John was of Lincolns Inn, 26 December, 1586, of whom Blakeway says that he was a very eminent attorney temp. Elizabeth, selected by Mr. Justice Owen of Condover, to be one of the executors of his will, and who had sufficient interest with Lord Keeper Egerton to obtain for John Cooke in 1596 the office of deacon in the Church of Cleobury Mortimer. Mr. Lutwiche was a man of piety and munificence, and rebuilt the chancel of Shipton in Corvedale. This John was the sixth son of Richard Lutwich of Lutwich Hall, by Elizabeth, daughter of Roger Boycott of Eye, Co. Salop, son of the above Richard of Lutwich and Agnes his wife; but the Visitations do not mention any wife or

issue of this John. The family is very ancient, and bore or a tiger pass. gules. Richard Corfield and Abigail, his wife, had issue. 1. John, of whom hereafter. 2. William, ancestor of the Corfields of Hughley, 3. Thomas of Wenlock.

XV. John, 1530, married Johanna Langford, and had issue. 1. Richard of Chatwall, of whom hereafter. 2. Ralph, who purchased 600 acres of land in Longville from John Littleton, and died 3 July, 1573, having married Alice, daughter of John Addams (living 1573), Ermine 2 cats pass. in pale, by whom he had issue. *a* William, aged 8 at his father's death. Buried at Cardington, 11 April, 1661, æt. 88, whose grandson William sold Longville in 1710 to William Burraghs of Lincolns Inn. *b* John, born 1567. *c* Ralph, born 1570, ancestor of Corfield of Ticklerton, Co. Salop.

XVI. Richard of Chatwall, married Anne, daughter of Richard Acton of Acton Scott, by Cicely, daughter of Richard Mitton of Shrewsbury, who was six times Bailiff of that town, and died 28 November, 1591, by his wife Agnes, daughter of Sir Edward Grey of Enville, Co. Stafford, Kt. The marriage of Richard Corfield and Anne Acton is given in the Visitations. The Actons bore Quarterly per fess indented arg. and gules in the first quarter a martlet sable, and the heiress of the family married Walter Acton of Aldenham. Richard Acton and Anne his wife had issue. 1. John of Longville, of whom hereafter. 2. William of Chatwall, 1590. 3. Richard, husband of Frances Doughty of Bourton, Co. Salop.

XVII.—John of Longville died 9 March, 34 Elizabeth, having married Johannah, daughter of John Wartur, an heiress, by whom he had issue. 1. Thomas, of whom hereafter. 2. Richard. 3. William. 4. Mary, wife of Richard Egerton. 5. Elizabeth, wife of Richard Harris.

XVIII.—Thomas, born 1562, died 1598, having married Avice, daughter of . . . . Smallman of Rushbury, by whom he had issue. 1. Thomas of Chatwall,

of whom hereafter. 2. Dorothy, wife of Thomas Russell, ancestor of the Russells of Powye, Co. Worcester. 3. Margaret, wife of George Smith. 4. William.

XIX.—Thomas of Chatwall, married Ann Russell of Brockton, Co. Salop, and had issue. 1. Richard, of whom hereafter. 2. Anne, wife of William Flavell. 3. . . . . a daughter, wife of Richard Sankey. 4. Joan, wife of William Oakley. 5. Thomas.

XX.—Richard of Chatwall Park, bap. at Cardington 1615, died 1680, married Sarah, daughter of Roger Mauncell of Cardington, and had issue. 1. Richard, of whom hereafter. 2. Thomas, M.A., Vicar of Cardington 1709. 3. John of Quatt. 4. William. 5. Christopher.

XXI.—Richard of Chatwall 1637, 1710, married firstly Katherine or Margaret Warter of Cruck Meole, 1692; and secondly, Mary, daughter and coheir of Arthur Walthall of Edge, Co. Salop. By the first wife he had issue. 1. Thomas of Wilston, in Cardington, 1678, 1732, who sold Chatwall to his brother Richard, and having married Elizabeth Hunt, had issue: John 1711, 1777, who owned part of Chatwall by will, but died s.p. 2 Richard 1683, 1753, of Chatwall, who by Elizabeth, his wife, daughter of William Russell, left issue, a daughter and heiress Anne, who marrying Robert Rawlins of New Hall, had issue, Richard Corfield Rawlins of Chatwall, whose son Thomas sold it in 1799. 3. William, of whom hereafter.

XXII.—William, born 1689, inherited lands in Chatwall from his father, and by Elizabeth, his wife, daughter of John Harrington of Church Stretton, had issue. 1. William, of whom presently. 2. Edward, born 1716, killed while hunting. 3. Richard, born 1719, who by Mary Phillips, his wife, had issue. *a* Richard; and *b*, William, who left coheirs. But Richard (*a*) had issue, Richard, Rector of Pitchford and Waters Upton, Co. Salop, who 15th December, 1808, at St. Julian's, Shrewsbury, married Diana Margaretta, (she died at Waters Upton, 1 January, 1847), eldest daughter of Henry Peele of Shrewsbury, one of the Cursitors of

the Court of Chancery, by Diana Margaretta, his wife (married 8 August, 1776), which lady was daughter of John Flint of St. Michaels, Cornhill, and afterwards of Shrewsbury (by Elizabeth, his wife, daughter of Edward Tipton of Salop), son of John Flint of Shrewsbury, by Jane his wife, only daughter of Waties Corbett of Micklewood, son of Waties Corbett of Elton, Co. Hereford (by Margaret Weaver, his wife), third son of Sir Edward Corbett, Bart., of Longnor and Leighton, who died 30 May, 1653, and is buried at Condover. Richard Corfield had issue by his wife Diana Margaretta—1. Richard; 2. William, Rector of Llangattock, who married Henrietta, daughter of John Cotes, M.P. for Salop; 3. Capt. Frederick; 4. Thomas, Vicar of Wenlock, and others.

XXIII.—William of Shrewsbury and Wenlock, born 1714, married Elizabeth, daughter of Rev. William Egerton, and had issue—1. Col. William of Taunton, ancestor of the Corfields of Taunton; 2. Richard, of whom hereafter; 3. George; 4. John; 5. Joseph.

XXIV.—Richard, born at Wenlock 1757, died 1810, married Susannah, daughter of Henry Willmot of Axminster, Co. Devon, and had issue—1. John, obt. s.p.; 2. Richard, obt. s.p.; 3. Capt. Thomas, eldest son, obt. 1830; 4. Major Samuela, killed 1809; 5. William Willmot, of whom hereafter, and four daughters.

XXV.—William Willmot, born 1785, died 1847, married Mary, daughter of Sampson Rogers, and had issue—1. Richard, obt. 1857; 2. William; 3. Thomas; 4. Charles; 5. Frederick, Rector of Heanor, of whom hereafter, and two daughters.

XXVI.—Rev. Frederick, Rector of Heanor, Co. Derby, died 1883, married Sarah Weller, daughter of Major Channer, and had issue—1. Frederick Channer, who married Agnes Rebecca, daughter of Sir John Alleyne, Bt.; 2. Rev. Conyngham; 3. Herbert; 4. Rev. Claud; 5. Rev. Ashley; 6. Rev. Egerton, and two daughters.

Referring again to the family of Adams or Addams, of whom came Alice, wife of Ralph Corfield of Longville (vide sub. XV.) the above pedigree distinctly, by the similarity of Arms, refers her to the family of Adams of Longdon, who entered their pedigree in the Visitation of 1623, and bear as arms Ermine 3 cats a mountain in pale tails coward ppr., other MSS. say az. The present F. Channer Corfield, Esq., of Ormonde Fields, Co. Derby, kindly informs the writer in an interesting letter that he has two old Deeds of the Adams family, both spelt with one "d," one relating to John Adams de Harley in Com. Salop, yeoman, and others who appear to sell lands to John Lyttleton de Ffranckley in Com. de Wigorn Armiger, dated on the back May 1st, 7 Eliz. The other Deed relates to Elizabeth and Dorothy Adams, daughters of John Adams de Harley, temp. Elizabeth. There is in possession of the writer a Deed dated 24 February, 5 Elizabeth, between John Lyttleton of Frankley, Co. Worcester, Esq., and Gylberte Lyttleton, gent., heir apparent of the said John, on the one part, and John Adams of Harley, Co. Salop, yoman, Thomas Hyll of Much Wenlock, in the Co. of Salop, yoman, and Thomas Adams of Acton Burnell, on the other part, by which the Lyttletons for "the som of two hundred thrytty oon pounds fyve shillings & eight pence" sell to the Adamses and Hill three messuages, farms, or tenements in Longfyld als, Longveld, and Lusshecote, in the parish of Eaton, which were then in the occupation of Edmund Adams, Thomas Hyll, and Thomas Adams. The Deed subsequently mentions Brygytte, wife of the said John Lyttleton. It is signed by John and Gilbert Lyttleton, the seal of the first is gone, that of the second is a bird with the wings raised, rudely engraved. In the endorsement of the Deed the name Adams is spelt Addams, and there is a note "Eliz. and Dor. Addams releas to Mary Addams 23 feb. 22 Eliz. Regine." This Deed evidently belongs to the same set as the two mentioned above, and on the evidence of the Arms given we should conclude that these Adamses belonged

to the family of Adams formerly of Longdon. Longville is about five miles east of Church Stretton, on the way to Wenlock, so evidently a branch of the Longdon Adamses was seated at no great distance from Wenlock and Broseley. To proceed to another document, a pedigree of Adams of Broseley from the College of Arms, C. 35, fo. 16 . .

I.—Richard Adams of Ashton, in Co. Salop, had issue.

II.—Thomas Adams of Broseley, married Joice, daughter of . . . Smallman of Neenton, Co. Salop, and had issue.

III.—Francis Adams of Broseley, æt. 81, 1663, married Anne, daughter and heir of John Adams of Cleeton, Co. Salop, and had issue—1. John Adams, obt s.p.; 2. Sarah, of whom hereafter.

IV.—Sarah Adams married William Crompton, son and heir of Thomas Crompton of Stone, Co. Staff., and had issue—1. William; 2. Francis; 3. Thomas, æt. 2, 1663; 4. Ann, æt. 4, 1663.

The Arms are Ermine 3 cats a mountain pass. guard. az., with the note, "respite given for proof of these Arms."

From the pedigree of Smallman we learn that the father of the above Joyce was Edward Smallman, and that her brother Thomas had by his wife Agnes, daughter of Stephen Durant, a daughter Mary, wife of John Adams of Cleeton, from all of which it seems evident that the two families of Adams were connected both through the Smallmans and through the marriage of the above Francis, aged 81 in 1663, with Anne, daughter and heir of John Adams of Cleeton. There is an apparent difficulty created by a paper in the Blakeway Collection in the Bodleian, wherein the above Francis Adams of Broseley, is made brother of Charles Adams of Cleeton; this would contradict the above pedigree from the College of Arms, which assigns Francis to a different family, and mentions no Charles as son of Thomas and Joyce Smallman. But the Bodleian

in the family of Adams formerly of Longdon. Longdon is about two miles east of Church Stretton, on the road to Wenlock, so evidently a branch of the Longdon Adamses was settled at no great distance from Wenlock and Broseley. The pedigree is entitled "Descendants of Thomas Adams of Broseley from the College of Arms, [illegible] 23, fo. 19."

I.—Richard Adams of Salop, in Co. Salop, had issue.

II.—Thomas Adams of Broseley, married Anne, daughter of [illegible] of Norton, Co. Salop, and had issue.

III.—Francis Adams of Broseley, aet. 51, 1663, married Anne, daughter and heir of John Adams of Chester, Co. Salop, and had issue—1. John Adams, aet. 19; 2. Sarah, of whom hereafter.

IV.—Sarah Adams married William Crompton, son and heir of Thomas Crompton of Stone, Co. Staff., and had issue—1. William; 2. Francis; 3. Thomas, aet. 3, 1663; 4. Mary, aet. 1, 1663.

The Arms are Ermine 3 cats a mountain pass. proper, &c., with the note, "Francis gives for most of these Arms."

From the pedigree of Smallman we learn that the father of the above Agnes was Edward Smallman, and that her brother Thomas had by his wife Agnes, daughter of Stephen [illegible], a daughter Mary, wife of John Adams of Chester, from all of which it seems evident that the two families of Adams were connected both through the Smallmans and through the marriage of the above Francis, aged 51 in 1663, with Anne, daughter and heir of John Adams of Chester. There is an apparent difficulty created by a note in the Blakeway Collection in the Bodleian, wherein the above Francis Adams of Broseley, is made brother of Charles Adams of [illegible]; this would necessitate the above pedigree from the College of Arms which makes Francis to a different family, and makes the Charles the son of Thomas and Agnes Smallman. But the [illegible]

account was taken from an oral account of the family of Adams of Broseley given in 1760 by William Aston, nephew of the last-named William Crompton, and apparently calling Francis younger brother of Charles Adams (who derived Cleeton from his mother, the heiress of it), is a mistake, though the descendants of this Francis, as also of Charles, are correctly given.

The Cleeton family is accredited with three different coats of arms (Harl. MS. 1472). Firstly, Per pale argent and gules, a chevron between 3 (ash?) leaves counterchanged as per Camden Clarencieux. Secondly, Ermine a chevron vaire inter 3 roses gules, as in Wickstead's book, and thirdly, it alludes to the fact that Anne, sole daughter and heiress of William Adams of Cleeton, and widow of Francis Adams of Broseley, in 1637 bore Quarterly 1. Sa. a martlet argt., 2. Quarterly argt. and sable on a cross gules 5 mullets or., 3. Per pale azure and sable 3 fleurs de lis or., 4. Azure a chevron inter 3 wolves' heads or. The first of these coats is that of a family whose pedigree is given in Harl. MS. 1975-6 thus :—

I.—Sir Thomas.

II.—John ap Sir Thomas.

III.—Adam ap John.

IV.—Thomas ap Adam (Adams) married Margaret, daughter of Thomas ap Rees ap Eignion, and had issue.

V.—John, who married Maud, daughter of William Thomas ap Rees ap Eignion, and had issue.

VI.—Thomas Jonnes, who married Katherine, daughter of John Elliot (by Julian, daughter of Swaen), son of Jenkin Elliot. In the same MS., fo. 83, the above quarterings are associated with the Herberts, No. 2 being called the coat of Brodspure, and 3 that of Ivor of Gwent, i.e., the Welsh Ynyr Ddu of Gwent. No. 3 is the coat of Ursula Gower of Ridmarley, so that it is evident that the family of Adams, who married the heiress of Gower of Ridmarley, and whose heiress Anne married Francis Adams of Broseley, were deduced from the same stock as the Herberts.

The Blakeway MSS. also leave us in no doubt as to the descent of Anne, daughter and heiress of John Adams of Cleeton, for we have the following confirmed by Harl. MS. 1982.

I.—John Adams of Cleeton married a daughter of Whitton of Whitton, and had issue—1. John of Cleeton, of whom presently, and 2. Thomas of Cleeton, who married (Margaret) daughter of Harley (of Brampton), and had issue.

II.—John Adams of Cleeton, had issue.

III.—John Adams 1613 married . . . . daughter of Edward Smalman of Wildertop, and had issue a daughter and heir, Anne, 1615.

A.D. 1597, 27 Sep. It is gratifying to find that among those persons whose position qualified them for holding offices of importance and trust at this time, and who had sufficient public spirit to perform those duties are such time-honoured names as those of Lacon, Bentall, Lockyer, and Horde, as well as Old and Langley. Thomas Lockyer was, probably, the son of Thomas Lockyer of Beslow, lord of the March, by Anne, daughter of Ralph Poyner, brother of Thomas Poyner of Beslow, son of William Lockyer, Bayliff of Wenlock in 1498. This Thomas married Katherine, daughter of Thomas Smalman, but the Smalman Pedigree calls her daughter of Edward Smalman, and sister of Joyce, wife of Thomas Adams. Their son Francis Lockyer was Bayliff of Wenlock in 1622. William Hoorde, second son of John Hoorde of Park Bromage, and Katherine, daughter of Adam Oteley of Pichford, had much to do with drawing up these accounts. He married Elizabeth, daughter of Guy Harnage of Shenton.

40 Elizabeth, 29 Sept. Thomas Jukes of Caughley, was the second husband of Margaret, relict of John Dawes, daughter of William Biest of Atcham, by Lucy, daughter of Thomas Poyner of Beslow, and one of the three coheirs of her brother John, who obt. s.p. (vide *Transactions* Shrop. Arch. Soc., Church of Donington) The Caughley estate vested in the Dawes family.

The Blakesley MSS. also leave us in no doubt as to the descent of Anne, daughter and heiress of John Adams of Clinton, for we have the following contained in Harl. MS. [illegible].

I.—John Adams of Clinton married a daughter of [illegible] of [illegible], and had issue—I. Edward Clinton, of whom presently, and 2. Thomas of Clinton, who married (Margaret) daughter of [illegible] of [illegible], and had issue.

II.—John Adams of Clinton, had issue.

III.—John Adams [illegible] married [illegible] daughter of Edward Smithson of [illegible], and had issue a daughter and heir, Anne, [illegible].

A.D. [illegible], [illegible] Sep. It is gratifying to find that among those persons whose position qualified them for holding offices of importance and trust at this time and who had sufficient public spirit to perform those duties [illegible] Lockyer, and [illegible], as well as [illegible] and [illegible]. Thomas Lockyer was, probably, the son of Thomas Lockyer of [illegible], and of [illegible] daughter of Ralph [illegible], brother of Thomas [illegible] of [illegible], son of William Lockyer, Bailiff of Warwick in [illegible]. This Thomas married [illegible], daughter of Thomas [illegible], [illegible] of Edward Smithson, and widow of [illegible] Adams. [illegible] Thomas Lockyer was Bailiff of Warwick in [illegible]. William [illegible], second son of John [illegible] of [illegible], and [illegible], daughter of [illegible] of [illegible], [illegible] up these [illegible]. He married Elizabeth, daughter of Guy [illegible] of [illegible].

[illegible] Elizabeth, [illegible] Sept. Thomas [illegible] of [illegible], was the second husband of [illegible] widow of John [illegible], daughter of William [illegible] of [illegible], daughter of Thomas [illegible] of [illegible] and [illegible] of [illegible] [illegible] Church of [illegible]. The [illegible] estate [illegible] in the [illegible] family.

42 Eliz. The name of Richard Legge, gent., in this and the previous and subsequent years brings before us a family which has been for some time connected with Shropshire and the neighbouring County of Staffordshire, through the purchase by the fourth Earl of Dartmouth of the Patshull and other estates, a family which has gained the respect and goodwill of its neighbours, not only by its position and wealth, but also by the courtesy and excellence of its members. Collins says the family of Legge is said to have come from Italy, and William de la Lega was Sheriff of Herefordshire 17 Henry II., the branch of the family established in which county has always been esteemed the elder. Francis Salter married Elizabeth, daughter of William Bayley. He was the son of Thomas Salter of Oswestry, and Alicia, daughter of Richard Lawley of Spoonhill (aunt of Jane, wife of Stephen Smalman), son of Richard Salter and Anne, daughter of Thomas Pigot of Chetwynd, second son of John (others say Thomas) Salter of Salter's Hall, near Newport, Co. Salop, and Rosa, daughter of William Cludd of the Orleton family. With respect to the family of Slaney Blakeway observes, "A family tradition derives them from Slaney, a town in Bohemia, 18 miles N.W. of Prague." "It appears from the Records of Shrewsbury that in 1648 Frederick Slaney, gent., son of Valentine Slaney, de civitate Regimuntani in Prussia infra dominium Regis Polonie (by which is meant, I presume, Konigsberg) was admitted a burgess of that corporation." John and Humphrey Slaney were, probably, sons of John Slaney of Mytton, Co. Stafford, whose brother, Sir Stephen, was Lord Mayor of London in 1595, and died 1608, aged 84. The arms, Gules a bend inter 3 martlets or., are said to have been granted in 1595 to Sir Stephen, son of John, and grandson of Ralph of Yardley, Co. Worcester. Robert Slaney, grandson of John, brother of Sir Stephen, married in 1672 Anne, daughter of Thomas Moreton of Brocton Grange, Co. Staff., son of Richard Moreton, who had received Brocton Grange,

and apparently the lordship of Beymishall or Donington, by devise from his niece Anne, daughter and coheir of Robert Moreton and Joyce, daughter of Thomas Lee of Langley, which Thomas Lee was son of Fulk Lee, and grandson of Richard (Sheriff Salop 1479), and Margery, daughter and coheir of Sir Fulk Sprenchose, amongst whose Lordships was that of Beymishall als Donington, and we find this lordship held by the Slaney family in 1771, when the common lands in that parish were enclosed, though it subsequently passed to the family of Whiston, from whom it descended to that of Bishton, and from them by purchase in the earlier part of the present century to that of Jones, formerly of Chilton, in the parish of Atcham.

9 Jas. I. Morrice or Morris Benthall was a younger brother of Lawrence. He was buried 7th Oct., 1609. There is a family of Blakeway still resident at Little Wenlock. The name Harryott is peculiar. There is an estate on the extreme eastern border of the county adjoining Chillington called Harriotts Hayes.

1617. Sir Edward Bromley, one of the Barons of the Exchequer, was of Shiffnall, and married Margaret, daughter and heir of Nicholas Lowe of Tymore, in Enville, Co. Staff., but died s.p. on the 2nd June, 1626. He was the son of Sir George Bromley of Hallon, in Worfield parish, by Joane, daughter and heir of John Waverton and Alice his wife, sole daughter and heir of George Barker of Hallon, and grandson of George Bromley of Hodnet (Sheriff in 1522) by Jane, daughter of Sir Thomas Lacon of Willey.

16 Jas. I. John Bentall or Benthall is probably the younger brother of Lawrence, and married Joyce, daughter of George Forster and Elizabeth Moreton. Their son, Lawrence, succeeded to the estate, and was Commissioner of Array for the King.

18 Jas. I. Thomas Wolrych was born at Worfield in 1598, and was subsequently Member of Parliament for Wenlock. He married Ursula, daughter of Thomas Oteley of Pichford. His sisters Mary and Elizabeth

married respectively John Grey of Enville (by whom she had issue Mary, wife of William Ward), and John Puleston of Emral. Their mother was Margaret, sister of Sir Edward Bromley.

1621. Sir Francis Lacon of Kinlet, Co. Salop (Sheriff 1612), married Jane, daughter of Anthony Browne, Viscount Montague. He was owner of Willey and Kinlet. Blakeway (*Sheriffs of Shropshire*) says "he sold largely, and his son Rowland suffered much in the service of Charles I." Curiously enough, under the year 1642, Blakeway says that John Weld "purchased Willey from Sir *Thomas* Lacon of Kinlet, some time, as I apprehend, between 1612 and 1623." The only *Thomas* of this time was the younger brother of Sir Francis, who had the Linley estate. Sir Francis was succeeded by his son, Rowland, who married Mary, daughter of Sir Robert Purslow of Sudbury, Co. Salop, Kt., by his second wife, Jane, daughter of Arthur Salwey of Stanford, Co. Worcester, and had a sole daughter and heir, Anne, wife of Sir William Childe, a Master in Chancery, descended from an ancient family seated at Northwick, Co. Worcester, from whom descend the present noble and courteous owners of the Kinlet estate. Their daughter, Muriel Childe, married Francis Berkeley of Ewdness, near Worfield, whose daughter, Laconia (from Lacon) married Edward Browne of Caughley, and in possession of the writer (their descendant in the female line) amongst other old family papers is a deed dated 2nd May 15 James I. between Sir Francis Lacon of Kinlet, Bt., and Rowland Lacon, Esq., his son and heir, of the first part, and Walter Waukless of Hamnesh als Hamneshe Clifford, Co. Hereford, yeoman, of the other part, by which the former sell to the latter the manor of Hamnesh, &c. Signed ffra. Lacon, Rowe Lacon, and on the back is a memorandum to the effect that seizin was given to the said Walter Waukless on 5th May, 1617. This is evidently a deed of the Sir Francis under consideration and Rowland his son and heir. Loyalty and recusancy greatly reduced this old and wealthy

family. Fuller speaks of them in 1662 as "shrewdly shattered in estate." Humphrey Brigges was of Ernstree Park, in the parish of Didlebury, and Sheriff of Shropshire in 1605. He was the son of Oliver Brigges of Ernestree, who married firstly Jane, daughter of Richard Habingdon of Brockhampton, and secondly Anne, daughter of Humphrey Coningsby of Neen Solers, Co. Salop. The second wife was the mother of Oliver, who augmented his estate by marrying Anne, daughter and coheir of Robert Moreton of Haughton, near Shiffnall. He frequently acted as agent for the family of Grey of Buildwas, and his son and heir, Moreton Brigges, married Cresagon, daughter of John Grey of Buildwas, and Lady of the Manor of Humphreston, Co. Salop, when it was alienated by an apparently forced sale to Edmund Waring, the parliamentarian, Sheriff of Salop in 1657. Their daughter, Frances, was wife of Ferrers Fowke, from which family descended Catherine, Lady of that Manor in 1836, but the male line was continued by the eldest son, Humphrey Brigges, and became Baronets. They subsisted at Haughton until Sir Hugh Brigges (Sheriff 1747), dying without issue, left his sisters co-heirs, the eldest of whom married Edward Chandler Bishop of Durham, and left issue, while the second, Elizabeth, became the wife of Leigh Brooke, and so progenitress in the female line of the late Rev. John Townshend Brooke of Haughton Hall, and Richard, his brother, of whom it may be remarked that it is difficult to say which exceeded the other in courtesy, kindness, ability, and culture. Walter Acton was of Aldenham and Sheriff of Shropshire in 1630. He added to his paternal estate by marrying Frances, daughter and heir of Edward Acton of Acton Scott, and their son Edward, an eminent loyalist, was created a Baronet 17th Jan., 1643, a title which has descended to Lord Acton, the present representative of the family. Thomas Hoorde was of Park Bromage, and had married Mary, daughter of Edward Fox of Ludlow, by Jane, daughter of Adam Oteley of Pitchford, son of Edmund

Fox of Ludford, and Katherine, daughter of Thomas Trentham of Rowcester, son of William of St. John's, previously mentioned, whose daughter Catherine married Francis Adams of Caynham.

20 Jas. I. Henry Mytton of Shipton, died 17 Sep., 1663, and was buried at Shipton. From him descended the family whose name is still connected with this interesting old mansion, the residence of Mrs. Mytton.

21 Jas. I. Richard Turnour was of Grays Inn, and had married Susannah, daughter and heir of John Farmer of London, Grocer, i.e., of the Grocers' Company, a younger son of the Farmers or Fermors of Easton Neston, from whom the late Earls of Pounfret descended. Richard was the son of John Turner of the Woodhouses, in the Parish of Shiffnall, by Margaret, daughter of . . . Cowper of Weston, Co. Staff., son of John Turner, of Coleyhall, near Newport, Co. Salop. Francis Berkeley was of Ewdness, Clungunford, Leahall, Bradley and Stoke. He married Elizabeth, daughter of Roland Dutton of Hatton, Co. Chester, and Eleanor, his wife, daughter of Thomas Scriven of Frodesley, Co. Salop, by Elizabeth, daughter of John Leighton of Watlesburgh, and Joyce, daughter of Edward, Lord Dudley. Robert Thorne or Thomas appears to be the third son of Roger Thornes of Shelvock, buried in St. Mary's, Shrewsbury, 1531, by Jane, daughter of Sir Roger Kynaston and Elizabeth his wife, daughter of Henry Grey, Lord Tankerville. Robert Thornes married Elizabeth, daughter of Thomas Port of Bridgnorth, and so became connected with this neighbourhood.

22 Jas. I. We have some mention of the family of Bishop of the Moor under other families. Thus Richard Adams of Cleeton, married a daughter of John Bishop of the Moor, and at a somewhat later period Anne, daughter of William Hopton of Hopton Wafre, by Elizabeth, daughter of William Fox of Ludlow, married Richard Bishop of the Moore. Edmund Bullock was the fourth son of Nicholas by Mary, daughter of William Minde of Minde. He married Dorothy, daughter of

George Smith of Morville, and of St. James', Bridgnorth. On the 4th June, 1556, Sir John Perrott granted the Manor of St. James', Bridgnorth, then lately a chantry, to Roger Smith of Morville, the father of George Smith. This Sir John Perrott was a natural son of Henry VIII. by Mary, wife of Thomas Perrott or Perrot (who is said by George Owen to have introduced pheasants into Pembrokeshire from Ireland), and daughter of James, second son of Maurice, Lord Berkeley. Sir John married twice, and left many descendants (vide an account of the family by Rev. E. L. Barnwell).

2 Chas. I. Sir Humphrey Lee was the first Shropshire man who was created a Baronet, and received this dignity in 1620. Having married Margaret, daughter of Reginald Corbet jure uxoris of Stoke, he had a son and heir, Richard Lee, who alighting upon the evil days of the Civil Wars, was compelled to pay to the Parliament, that ideal Palladium of British liberty, the sum of £3719 as a composition for his estate, and £169 per annum. The estates finally devolved upon the two daughters of this Richard, Rachel, wife of Ralph Cleaton, and Mary, wife of Edward Smythe, who with great and perhaps rare generosity, interposed with his father-in-law in order that his other daughter should have her share of the property. Edward Smythe was created a Baronet shortly after the Restoration, and from him descends the present owner of Acton Burnell and Langley. William Steventon of Dothill, married Sarah, sister of Henry Dawes of Caughley (who married Jane, daughter of Lawrence Benthall of Benthall), and daughter of John Dawes by Margaret, daughter and coheir of John Beist of Atcham. Their daughter Mary married Francis Haughton of Beckbury, Co. Salop, and their son and heir John married Mary, daughter of Sir Richard Newport, afterwards Lord Newport. She married secondly, Francis Forester of Wattling Street, to whom her son by the first marriage, Richard Steventon, devised the Dothill estate, near Wellington, Co. Salop,

George Smith of Maresfield, and of St. James', Bridgnorth. On the 4th June, 1559, Sir John Perrot granted the Manor of St. James', Bridgnorth, then lately a Nunnery, to Roger Smyth of Morvill, the father of George Smith. This Sir John Perrot was a natural son of Henry VIII by Mary, wife of Thomas Perrot or Perrott; [illegible] by George Owen to have [illegible] [illegible] Pembrokeshire from Ireland; was daughter of James, second son of Maurice, Lord Berkeley. Sir John married twice, and left issue (vide an account of the family by Rev. E. L. Barnwell).

2 Chas. I. Sir Humphrey Lee was the first Shropshire man who was created a Baronet, and received this dignity in 1620. Having married Margaret, daughter of Reginald Corbet, [illegible] he had a son and heir, Richard Lee, who, [illegible] upon the evil days of the Civil Wars, was compelled to pay to the Parliament, [illegible] liberty, the sum of £3,719 as a composition for his estate, and £180 per annum. The estates finally devolved upon the two daughters of this Richard, Rachel, wife of Ralph Clayton, and Mary, wife of Edward Smythe, who with great [illegible] intermarried with his father's [illegible] in order that his eldest daughter should have her share of the property. Edward Smythe was created a Baronet shortly after the Restoration, and thus became the the present owner of Acton Burnell and Langley. William Stevington of [illegible], married Sarah, sister of Henry Davies of [illegible] (who married [illegible] daughter of Lawrence Benthall of Benthall), and daughter of John Davies by Margaret, daughter and coheir of John Smith of Aldenham. Their daughter Mary married Francis Dangerfield of [illegible], and their son had [illegible] John married Mary, daughter of Sir Richard Newport, afterwards Lord Newport. She married secondly Francis Forester of Watling Street, [illegible] but was by the first marriage, Richard Stevington, [illegible] the [illegible] estate, near Wroxeter, [illegible]

which has thence descended to the present Lord Forester. The family of Haughton of Beckbury acquired that estate by purchase, but, as is not unfrequently the case, was descended from the original owner of it. The first in the Visitation is—

I.—Roger Haughton of Swyney, Co. Salop. This is the Swyney or Sweeney, or Swinney, near Broseley, and not to be confused with Sweeney, near Oswestry, Co. Salop, formerly the property of the Kyffins.

II.—Roger, son of the above, had issue.

III.—Roger of Beckbury, who married Margaret, daughter of Thomas Wolrych of Dudmaston, and Elizabeth, daughter and coheir of William Rowley of Co. Staff. Arg. on a bend sa. inter 3 Cornish choughs of the last, 3 escallops of the first (Add. MSS. 14,314). They had issue.

IV.—Roger Haughton of Beckbury, who married Mary, daughter of Sir Edward Grey of Enville, Beckbury, &c. Of this ancient and interesting manor Eyton says—Hugh de Beckbury living 1196, was amerced with his brother Thomas 1209. He died in 1226, leaving by his wife Alicia de Mussun, John, and Hugh of Harrington. Of these John, who was amerced in Oct., 1227, and was dead in 1254, left issue, Philip de Beckbury, living in 1292, father of John. In the presentments made at Tutbury, 7 December, 1323, before John Stonore and his fellow Justices, we find mentioned amongst others, Richard de Beccaburi and John atte More, subtaxers of Patshull, who were fined one mark. In the quindem of S. Trin., 35 Ed. I., Richard de Beckebury occurs as a juror of Seisdon Hundred and at the assizes taken at Wolverhampton before William de Shareshull, &c., on the 21st Dec., 1338, was a trial as to whether John, son of Richard de Oldynton, and Joan his wife, and Richard de Beckbury had unjustly disseized Thomas, son of Richard de Oldynton of a messuage and carucate of land 4 acres of meadow and 2 acres of wood in Oldynton near Patshull. John stated, as tenant, that the said lands, &c., were formerly the possession of

Richard de Beckbury, father of Thomas, whose heir he is, and that this Richard was called indifferently Richard de Oldynton and Richard de Beckbury, but that the said Richard by a deed dated 9th Ed. III., which he produced, had enfeoffed him the said John, by the name of John, son of Richard de Beckbury and his heirs in the aforesaid lands, &c., so that Richard did not die seized of these possessions. Thomas did not deny the Deed, but asserted that his father Richard had died seized of the said lands, and that he had entered into them as his father's heir until disseized by John and the other defendants. The cause came before a jury, who decided that the said Richard, father of Thomas, had enfeoffed the said John before his death, and that he did not die seized of the said possessions, the suit was therefore dismissed. John de Beckbury conveyed that manor to his daughter and her husband by fine 23 Ed. III. and in default of heirs then to her right heirs. This daughter, Petronilla, heiress of Beckbury, married Thomas de la Lowe of Whittington, in the parish of Kinver, Co. Stafford (Blakeway). Arg. on a bend az. three wolves' heads erased of the field and their son, Sir Edmond de la Low, who had a licence for the Divine Offices to be celebrated in the Chapel of his mansion at Whittington from the Bishop of Lichfield, 12th Sep., 1401, left by his wife Eleanor, a son and heir, John, lord of Wytynton, father of Humphrey Lowe of Enville and Beckbury, Sheriff of Shropshire in 1439. Humphrey Lowe married Alice, daughter and heir of William Botener of Withybrooke, Co. Warwick, by whom he had a daughter, Eleanor, heiress of Enville and Beckbury, which she carried to her husband, Robert Grey, son of Reginald Lord Grey of Ruthyn by Ioan, sole heir of William Lord Astley. Their son, Humphrey Grey of Enville and Beckbury, married Anne, daughter of William Feilding of Co. Warwick, by whom he had issue Sir Edward Grey of Enville, Whittington, Beckbury, &c., who married Joyce, daughter of John Hoorde, obt. 31st May, 1494, by

Alice, daughter of William Bulkeley of Beaumaris, obt. 20th July, 1520, son of Thomas Hoorde, obt. 11th June, 1498, by Joyce, daughter and coheir of John Stapleton, obt. 12 Hy. VI. By this alliance Sir Edward Grey was father of Mary, wife of Roger Haughton of Beckbury, and also of a son, Thomas Grey, who succeeded to the paternal estates, and nominated to the living of Beckbury in 1535. He married Elizabeth, daughter of Sir Edward Verney, or, as others say, Anne, daughter of Sir Ralph Vernon, brother of Sir Henry of Tong Castle (Harl. MS. 6128), and had issue John Grey, who sold the Mansion House and lands in Beckbury to his cousin, John Haughton of Beckbury, 30th May, 1578. He also sold Enville to his distant cousin Henry, Lord Grey of Groby. Roger Haughton and Mary, his wife, had issue, a daughter, Margaret, wife of Walter Somerford of Somerford, and a son.

V.—John Haughton of Beckbury Hall, by purchase from his cousin, John Grey, in 1578. He is buried at Beckbury, and by Margaret, his wife, daughter of Humphrey Somerford of Somerford; Co. Stafford, left issue, with others. 1. Roger, of whom hereafter. 2. Thomas of Co. Worcester, who, marrying a daughter of . . . . Bayley of Stoke, Co. Worcester, had a daughter, wife of John Hanbury of Beanhall, Co. Worcester, obt. 1676, and mother of Jonas Hanbury of Beanhall. 3. Frances, wife of Roger Berrington of Shrewsbury, whose daughter Eleanor, marrying Thomas Stephens of London, was father of Elizabeth Stephens, wife of Isaac Scott of Shrewsbury.

VI.—Roger (Richard ?) Haughton, the son and heir in 1623, married firstly a daughter of Iremonger, and secondly Margaret, daughter of John Leighton of Leighton, by whom he had issue, with others, a son and heir.

VII.—Francis Haughton, who married twice, one of his wives being Mary, daughter of William Steventon of Dothill, and Sarah (neé Dawes), and the other Margaret, daughter of Richard Thornes of Shelvock, by Elizabeth, daughter of Edward Mitton, by whom he

had issue, with a daughter Margaret six months old in 1623, a son.

VIII.—Thomas Haughton.

The Beckbury estate passed a little later into the possession of Sir Richard Astley, Bt., of Patshull, probably by purchase, who settled it upon his natural daughter, Anne, her mother being a Reynells. Anne married Walter Stubbs of Harrington, buried at Beckbury 13th Sep., 1697. Their son Walter succeeded to Beckbury, and died 22nd October, 1766, leaving by his wife Eleanor Jones, with other issue, a son Walter, who died in 1815, having married Harriett, eldest daughter of William Hunt of Stratford on Avon, by whom he had issue eight children, of whom Walter the eldest died s p., having sold Beckbury to his brother William. Frederick, the third, but eldest son, who left issue, married Matilda, only child of John Powis Stanley of Watenore, and was father of the late Orlando Stubbs, for many years the popular Master of the Albrighton Fox Hounds. He married his cousin, Octavia Jane, daughter of Edward the fourth son, and left issue an only son, Frederick Orlando. Edward, the fourth son, was of Wooferton, near Ludlow, and having married Mary Anne, daughter of William Pickering of Luddington, Co. Warwick, had issue ten children, of whom Octavia Jane was wife of her cousin, Orlando, and her sister Edith Wyndham succeeded to the Beckbury Hall estate by devise of her uncle, William the fifth son, who had purchased it from his eldest brother.

3 Chas. I. There were two persons named Francis Adams about this time, as previously noticed, one a descendant of a family formerly resident at Cleaton in Bitterley, who was dead in 1637, and the other of a family resident near Newport, Co. Salop, who was living to a much later period.

8 Charles I. Richard Jones was a barrister, and of a family connected with Wenlock and its neighbourhood.

Adam Littleton, subsequently Sir Adam, was the eldest son of Thomas Littleton of Stoke Saint Milburgh

by Frances his wife, daughter of Adam Luttey of Bromcroft, and represented a younger branch of that eminent legal family.

13 Chas. I. Lawrence Benthall was Commissioner of Array for the King, and his grand-daughter Katherine carried the representation of the family to the Brownes of Caughley by her marriage with Ralph, son of Ralph Browne and Margaret, daughter and heir of John Dawes of Caughley, son of Henry and Jane Benthall. The Benthall estate was left to a daughter of Ralph and Katherine, but their eldest son Edward Browne married Laconia, daughter of Francis Berkeley of Ewdness, previously mentioned.

15 Chas. I. John Huxley was of Stanley Hall, near Bridgnorth. He acted as Attorney for Sir Robert Vernon in 1634, in the sale of the Ruckley Grange estate to Francis Forster of Sutton Maddock. By his wife Elizabeth Jones he had issue, three sons—John, born 1671; George, who died in 1675; and Francis, buried 1670, of whom John was of Stanley Hall, and by Margery, his wife, daughter of Thomas Wickstead, had issue, Francis, who died without issue in 1725, leaving his two sisters coheirs, of whom Elizabeth, the younger, married Richard Corbet of Alston, and Mary, the elder, married Edward, son and heir of Rev. Edward Jones, Canon of Windsor, descended from a younger brother of Richard Jones of Chilton, Co. Salop (vide Burke's *Baronetage* 1865, &c., sub Tyrwhitt-Jones). They had issue a son, Sir Thomas Jones, Kt., of Stanley Hall, Sheriff in 1760, who died s.p., but devised his estates to his cousin Thomas, son of John Tyrwhitt, from whom it descended to the late Sir Henry Tyrwhitt, Bart.

21 Chas. I. Andrew Bowdler was the son of John Bowdler of Shrewsbury, and Elizabeth, daughter of Adam Waring of Charleton Hall (now the Theatre), in that town, and grandson of Roger Bowdler of Shrewsbury, by Jane, daughter of Thomas Heynes of Stretton, another of whose daughters, viz., Margaret, was wife of

Thomas Thynne of Stretton. The Bowdlers were of Hope Bowdler, and bore Arg. 2 Cornish choughs in pale ppr. Andrew Bowdler is said to be of Marlegott, in Ireland, and married Joan, daughter of John Bury of Ballybegon, in Ireland, by whom he had issue, Thomas. Andrew was the younger brother of Samuel Bowdler, who signed the pedigree in the Visitation of 1623, and marrying Lucy, daughter of . . . Forster of Evelith, was father of Audley Bowdler, aged 16 in 1623, whose name occurs subsequently.

22 Chas. I. William Fowler was of Harnage Grange, and Sheriff in 1650. His grandfather William had purchased Harnage Grange from Edward (Blakeway says William) Grey, and by Mary, daughter of John Blythe, M.D., had a son, Richard of Harnage Grange, who marrying Mary, daughter of Sir Edward Littleton of Pillaton, Co. Stafford, and Margaret his wife, neé Devereux, had issue this William, who marrying Anne, daughter of Richard, or as others say, Thomas Perkes, (a family whose heiress afterwards married William Ward, ancestor of the present Earl of Dudley), had issue Richard, husband of Margaret, daughter of Sir Richard, afterwards Lord Newport. The family of Fowler is an ancient one, and still owns land at Pendeford, Co. Stafford, on the borders of Shropshire, and elsewhere. They were great purchasers of Church lands. Brian Fowler of Stone, Co. Stafford, brother of the purchaser of Harnage, purchased the Abbey of St. Thomas in that county, where he left descendants, of whom Mary, fifth daughter of Walter Fowler of St. Thomas, married Richard Betham, and through her that estate descended to her son John, who took the name of Fowler, and is mentioned among the English Catholic non-jurors in 1715 as possessor of considerable property. The family has been mentioned before in the *Transactions*, and some account is given of them in the late Chev. Youde-Lloyd's *History of Powys Fadog*. Sir Humphrey Briggs was the eldest son of Sir Moreton Briggs, Bt., by Cresagon (Grizagona), daughter of John

Grey of Buildwas (Harl. MS. 1,396), though others say of Edward Grey of Buildwas. He was made a Knight in his father's lifetime, and married four wives, but the mother of his heir was the second wife, Elizabeth, youngest daughter of Sir Richard Wilbraham of Woodhey, Co. Chester, a family already connected with Shropshire. Thomas de Wilburgham married Margaret, daughter and heir of John Golborne, Lord of Woodhey, by which match that manor came into the family. Their son Thomas, who died 7 Henry VII., married Margaret, daughter of Thomas Swetenham, and had issue a daughter, Margaret, wife of Thomas Hill, third son of Humphrey Hill of Buntingsdale (by Agnes, daughter and heir of John Bird, heir of David de Malpas) and mother of Rowland Hill, Lord Mayor of London in 1549, and also a son, William Wilbraham of Woodhey, who by his wife Helena, daughter of Philip Egerton of Egerton, had with other issue, Richard, Master of the Revels and of the Jewel house to Queen Mary, also M.P. for Co. Chester. He married Dorothy, daughter of Richard Grosvenor of Eaton, and had issue, Thomas of Woodhey and Tilston, obt. 1610, who marrying Frances, daughter of Sir Hugh Cholmondeley of Cholmondeley, was father of Richard, created a Baronet in 1621, who by Grace, sister of Thomas, first Viscount Savage, was succeeded in 1643 by his son Sir Thomas, a distinguished Royalist, who survived the Restoration, and had issue by Elizabeth, daughter and coheir of Sir Roger Wilbraham of Bridgemore, Co. Chester, a son, Sir Thomas, Bart., who marrying Elizabeth, daughter and heiress of Edward Mytton of Weston, Co. Stafford, left at his death in 1668 three coheirs, Elizabeth, wife of Sir Thomas Middleton of Chirk Castle, Grace, wife of Lionel, Lord Dysart, and Mary, wife of Richard Newport, Earl of Bradford. Morton Briggs, whose signature is appended, was probably, the younger brother of Sir Humphrey, who was killed during the Civil War, on the side of the King, at Stourton Castle, Co. Stafford, leaving no issue. Their sister Frances

was wife of Ferrers Fowke of Brewood Hall, Co. Staff., two of whose children are buried in Donington Church, having, probably, died while visiting their grandmother, Lady Briggs, at Humphreston Hall, in the neighbourhood.

23 Chas. I. Humphrey Mackworth was born in 1603, and in 1642 was appointed by the Parliament a committee for raising the weekly assessment in this county in support of their army, so that Charles I., when at Bridgnorth in October of that year, alludes to him as one who "had assisted his Majesty's adversaries in a deep measure." He became a leading member of the Committee for Shropshire formed to borrow money from the well affected, and to seize the property of the Royalists, the Ecclesiastics, and the Papists. He was subsequently Govenour of Shrewsbury after its capture from the Royalists, and in 1651 was president of the Court which sentenced the Earl of Derby to be beheaded at Bolton. (Blakeway's *Sheriffs*.) His descendants seem to have felt how little conducive it is to the liberty of Englishmen that any branch of the legislature should assume an undue proportion of power or position.

A.D. 1658. Sir John Pershall or Peshall was born 22nd February, 1562, created a Baronet in 1612, and in 1615 was Sheriff of Staffordshire. He was the son of Thomas Peshall of Horseley, Co. Stafford, by Ioan or Jane, daughter and coheir of Sir Edmund Fettiplace or Phetiplace of Bessils Leigh, Co. Berks. She was the widow of Anthony Windsor, and sister of Dorothy, who married in 1556 Henry Cassey of Whitfield, Co. Gloucester, obt. 1595, and was by him mother of Thomas, who died 1634, leaving by Cassandra, his wife, daughter of John Giffard of Chillington, Co. Stafford, with other issue, a daughter Catherine, wife of Lawrence Benthall of Benthall, Co. Salop. The house at Horseley was burnt down during this Sir John's life, and he himself died in 1646, aged 84. He married Anne, daughter of Ralph Sheldon of Beoley, Co. Worcester, by Anne Throgmorton, who, it may be remembered, was sister

was wife of Thomas Lewis of Harwood Hall, Co. Salop, two of whose children are buried in Kensington Church, having probably lived with their grandmother Lady Briggs, at Kensington Hall, in the neighbourhood.

43 Chas. I. Humphrey Mackworth was born in 1603, and in 1642 was appointed by the Parliament a committee for raising the yearly assessment in this county in support of their army, so that Charles I, when at Shrewsbury in October of that year, alluding to him as one who "had ... his Majesty's ... in a very insolent manner". He became a leading member of the Committee at Shrewsbury formed to borrow money from the well affected, and to seize the property of the Royalists, the Sequestrators, and the Catholics. He was subsequently Governor of Shrewsbury after its capture from the Royalists, and in 1651 was president of the Court which sentenced the Earl of Derby to be beheaded at Bolton. (Whitelock's Memorials.) He is believed to have ... very little ... the liberty of England, that ... of the legislature should ... power or position.

A.D. 1654. Sir John Pettus or Pettit was born 22nd February, 1613, ... in 1642, and in 1616 was ... of ... He was the son of Thomas Pettit of ..., Co. Stafford, by Joan or Jane, daughter and ... of Sir ... of ... Castle ..., Co. ... She was the widow of Anthony Whitley, and ... of ..., who married in 1596 Henry ... of Whitmore, Co. ..., ob. 1553, and was by him mother of ..., who died 1631 leaving ... his wife, daughter of John ... of ..., Co. Stafford, who also ... a daughter ... wife of ... Hall of ..., Co. Salop. The ... was burnt down during the ... war, and he himself died in 1666, aged 53. He married Anne, daughter of Ralph ... of ..., Co. Worcester, by Anne ..., who, it may be remembered, was single (Vol. VI—Part 3).

of Mabel Sheldon, wife of William Gower of Ridmarley, Co. Worcester, and mother of Ursula Gower, coheir, wife of William Adams of Cleaton. Thus there was already a connection between Sir John Peshall and Shropshire. Both he and his wife were buried in Eccleshall Church, Co. Stafford. Their son Thomas married Bridget, daughter of William Stafford of Blatherwick, Co. Northampton, and, dying in his father's life time, left issue. The Sir John Peshall, whose name is recorded, who was born 30th Sep., 1628, succeeded to the Baronetcy at the death of his grandfather, and married 1660 Frances, daughter of Colonel Thomas Leigh of Adlington. He died in 1701.

We are indebted for these transcripts to the kindness of Francis Benthall, Esq., F.S.A., of Buckfast Abbey, in Devonshire, than whom there are few who have a more fervent love for our county, a more intimate knowledge of her history and the genealogies of her families, or a more kindly interest in everything conducive to her welfare.

Extracts from the Corporation Records of Wenlock.

Die Martis p'xmi post festum S'cti anno reg. reg. Edw. 4^{ti} viij^{o} omnes tenentes Burgi de Wenloke per virtutem cartæ regiæ sibi concessæ eligaverunt Joh'em Lawley Ballum Burgi villæ de Wenlok et dat de fine xiij^{s} iiij^{d}

W^{m} Clarke armiger silicet — Edm^{d} Benethale silet
Rich. Stevens vicarius silicet — Joh'es More de Larden
Tho^{s} Lawley Sen. silet

In dei no'ie Amen Die martis prox post f'm s'ti Gregorii Ep'ci Anno regni regis Edwardi iiij^{ti} viij vener' congregati adminc'e om'es tene'tes Burgi de Wenloke 'et per virtutem cartæ Regiæ sibi concessæ eligunt Joh'em Lawley in lege perito Ballivum Burgi Villæ de Wenloke. Et post hec eodem die Rog'us prior de Wenloke elect'us et jurat primus Burgensis ad libertates Burgi de Wenloke et dat de fine xiij^{s} iiij^{d} Will's Clerke armig' silet, Ric'us Owen vicar silet, Tho. Lawley sen^{r} silet Edm^{d} Benthale silet Joh'es More de Larden, Ric'us Warde de Wenl.

5 Hy. vij. S^{t} Thos' Day. Magna Wenlock, Election of William Clerk bayliff, William Heyward coroner, John Smith,

Treasurer. Item p^rdict Ball'us elegit Joh'em Wilkyns pro predicto anno servientem ad cla'm (serjeant).

6 Hy. vij. The account of Bayliff William Clerk given on the Feast of S^t Matthew the Apostle. The Burgesses admitted were, William Charlton, John Taylor, John Dike.

8 Hy. vij. Account of William Charleton, bayliff, from the Monday after the Feast of S^t Michael in this year to the same date next year. Credit is taken for the fee of office of his substitute in the Court Nicholas Corbyn, 26^s 8^d for his fee on account of his office and 10^s for the fee of office of N. Corbyn.

9 Hy. vij. Wednesday S^t Thos' day. Election of Thomas Laken esq^re bailiff, Rich^d Baker, Coroner. The said bayliff elects Thomas Walton his serjeant.

10 Hy. vij. Account of Thomas Lawley esq^re, Bayliff from Monday next after the Feast of S^t Michael to the same date next year. He claims credit for his own fee of office and that of John Horde, Justiciarii advis.

11 Hy. vij. St. Thos' Day. Election of Nicholas Corbyn bailiff, Rich^d Legg coroner. The names of those who elect the bayliff are, Richard Taylour, W^m Walton, W^m Gyttons, Rich^d Benymer, Thos. Walton, John Wilks, John Smyth, Rich^d Glover, Rich^d Legge, John Mason, John Somer. The said Nicholas, the Bayliff appointed Thomas Stone his serviens ad clam'am.

12 Hy. vij. Sunday, S^t Thos' of Hereford's day. Election of Rich^d Haughton Esq^re Bayliff, Richard Tayllour Coroner. The said bailiff elects Roger Heynes Serjeant ad clamam. The account of Rich^d Houghton Esq^re Bayliff from Monday next after the Feast of S^t Michael 12 Hy. vij to the same date in the next year.

14 Hy. vij. S^t Thos' of Hereford's day. Election of William Charleton esq^re bailiff, John Smith coroner. The bailiff elects Rich^d Berker servicus ad clamam. The account of W^m Charleton bailiff from the day after Michael^s Day 14 Hy. vij to the same day in the next year.

15 Hy. vij. Election of Rich^d Legge esq^re bailiff. Account of Rich^d Legg.

17 Hy. vij. S^t Thos' of Hereford. Election of John Leyghton bailiff.

18 Hy. vij. S^t Thos' of Hereford. Election of W^m Clark bailiff.

19 Hy. vij. S. Thos. of Here^d. Thomas Lakyn Esq^re.

20 Hy. vij. Election of Rich^d Hawton bailiff.

23 Hy. vij. Election of William Charlton bailiff, John Lawley, Sen^r gent., Coroner. The six men are John Lawley,

jun^{r}, gent., Thomas More, John Wylk, Thos. Smyth, Phillip Sprott, Thomas Lymell.

24 Hy. vij. S. Thos' of Hereford. Election of John Lawley, jun^{r}, bailiff, W^{m} Peynter, coroner.

Ric'us Harnage de Sheynton armiger admitted a Burgess 3 Hy. viij.

Monday next after S. Peter's day 3 Hy. viij Ric'us Foster de Evelyn Gent. admissus Burgensis, Thomas Laken Arm. ball curiæ penultimo die.

17 Hy. viij. Monday in the Feast of S. Thos. of Hereford. Lawrence Ludlow, Bailiff.

19 Hy. viij. Wednesday 6th in the Feast of S. Thomas of Hereford. Election of Richard Charlton gent^{n} Bayliff, Rich^{d} Baker Coroner. His account follows.

20 Hy. viij. S^{t} Thos. of Here^{fd}. Election of Edward More Bayliff, W^{m} More, Coroner, John Mynsterley, Treasurer.

22 Hy. viij. Proclamation for maintaining archery and putting down unlawful games.

Treasurership account of Richard Charlton Bailiff rendered 9 Oct. 1541.

Ordinance made 22 Oct. 24 Hy. viij. in the time of Richard Charlton gent. then bayliff that every bailiff therefrom henceforth shall make his accoumpte oppon Sa'nt Thomas of Harford Day before none and to pay the said accompt that as he shall be in debet uppon payn off forffetyng to the franchise the sum of x^{l} & yff he so do not that the bayly next after then chosen within hys tyme sue for the same x^{l} or ells he to forfett x^{l} & so every bayly after other after the same maner & fforme for ever.

Wednesday S. Thomas of Hereford's Day 24 Hy. viij. election of William More Bailiff and Ralph Wilkocks coroner, among the burgesses present are Edw^{d} Dyke and Edmund Litilhale, & Richard Gyttens (who was Coroner in 1520).

3 Oct. 24 Hy. viij. admission of W^{m} Fenny mer, Burgess. Mem^{m} of Adm^{n} of John Wells in the time of Bailiff More, the like of Thomas Turte and Thomas Deyes.

25 Hy. viij. Treasurership of acc^{t} of W^{m} More bailiff.

Feast of S. Thos. of Hereford 25 Hy. viij. Election of John Bradeley Bailiff, Edmund Litalhale coroner.

26 Hy. viij. S^{t} Thos. of Hereford's Day Elect^{n} of Rich^{d} Charlton gent. bailiff & Richard Gyttins coroner. Treasurership acc^{t} of Rich^{d} Charlton gent. for the 27 year of Hy. viij. Among the receipts is 'Item ress^{t} of Raffe Litylhys for the debt of Edmund Lytylhalys hys Father vi^{s} viii^{d}

	s.	d.
Alocat p per dictum ball'm		
Imprimis for the bayley's fee ...	xxvj	viij
It. the recorders fee ...	vj	viij
It. the stewards fee ...	x	
It. the serching fee ...	vj	viij
It. the court house ...	ij	
It. paper		
It. the steward for the wrytyng off the bylls of the muster to the the sheriff	ij	
It. to the serchant for the bord of John Somers 5 weeks	v	

27 Hy. viij. S[t] Thos. of Hereford's Day Election of John Bradeley of the Bullring bailiff John Heyward coroner and John Mynsterley treasurer. Admission of Rich[d] Wilkocks & Rich[d] Lacon Esq[re] as burgesses.

28 Hy. viij S[t] Thos. of Hereford's Day. Election of Rich[d] Lacon Esq[r] bailiff, John Sotherne Coroner & John Bradeley (senior) treasurer, Edward Dyke and others sixmen.

The compt. off Rich[d] Lacon Esquier for tyme off his Bayshipp for the yere above written.

	s.	d.		s.	d.
. . . wages ...	vj	viij	Item the Sess costs	xiij	vj
Item the Court house	ij		Item for wine to the		
Item paper ...	iij		Comiss		vj

29 Hy. viij S[t] Thos. of Hereford's Day. Election of Richard Wrottesley gent[n] bailiff John Smallman coroner & John Sotherne treasurer. Edward Dyke and others sixmen.

30 Hy. viij S[t] Thos. of Hereford's Day. Election of Richard Charlton Gent. bayliff, Hugh Mayall Coroner, John Sotherne treasurer. Sixmen Thos. Benbow and others. Acc[t] of the above bayliff.

	l	s.	d.
Item, the receipt of the Exchequer ...	iiij	viij	
Item for a blak colt send by Rich[d] Lakyn Squier for an exchete			
Item the costs of the Comiss			xvj
Item for Carpenters for squaring of timber		ij	ix
Item for bord of ij men for ij days... ...			viij
Item for wyne for my lord president ...			xvj
Item for the bedall			iij
Item for the borde of a prisoner viij dayes			xvj
It. for the costs of the accompt			xvj
Item to the . . . . for his paynes for the somyning of the musters & gathyring the burgess money			v

31 Hy. viij. S^{t} Thos. of Hereford's Day. Election of William More Bailiff, Thos. Benbow of Hoppton coroner, John Suthern Treasurer. Admissions of Burgesses. Account of Will^{m} More bailiff taken before the six men 2 Oct. 32 Hy. viij. In the continuation of this account the bailiff claims credit for 20 shillings paid to Thomas Buttler clerk, the vicar which he owes to the bayliff as above, i.e. for the benefit of the franchise.

32 Hy. viij. Sabbath Day 2 Oct. S^{t} Thos. of Hereford's Day. Election of John Sothurne bailiff, W^{m} Tourde Coroner, John . . . . . ? Among the electors are, Thomas Benbow of Callaughton, Edward Dyke placed among the electors for our Lord the King by Roland Lord Bishop of Lichfield and President of the Council of our Lord the King as in law the prior of Wenlock, John Heyward of Walton, Ralph Lytalhale.

N.B.—This is the first entry, by which it appears that the electors were sworn previously to voting, and where the names of the electors present are first entered and the result of the election subscribed. The entries from and inclusive of this date are fuller than they were before, probably under the influence of the Vicar, Mr. Bottelar.

Infrascript Joh'es Sotherns Ball elegit subball de franch Thom. Mounslow et jurat est.

N.B.—This is the first entry of the appointment of a sub-bailiff. It is not the usual appointment of servicus ad clam', but clearly "subball."

33 Hy. viij. 2 Oct. Election of John Bradeley Jun^{r} bailiff. This is followed by a long and interesting bayliff's account rendered by John Bradeley, Robert Chase of Barton Coroner, Hugh Benbow Treasurer.

Mem. 9^{a} xxvj^{o} die Septembris An^{o} xxxiiij H. 8 Ric'us Lee ar admissus est Burges villæ de Wenlok ad omnes libertates ibidem et jur et sol c^{m} fœd xx^{d} . . . . compot supra Joh'is Bradeley supra nominati Balli' fact cor Thesauris et sex ho'ies et alii (*sic*) Burges ij die Octobris anno Reg. Regis H. viij xxxiiij.

34 Hy. viij 2 Oct. Election of Richard Lee Esq^{re} bailiff Ralph Litilhale of Wyke coroner. Admissions.

Hereafter ensueth all such thyngs that the sed baylf & Raffe Bradeley alowance of First for the cost of the Sessyons.

	s.	d.
Item for bred ...	iiij	vj
„ ale ...	vij	iij
„ byfe ...	iiij	
„ veale ...		xx
„ too geys ...		x
„ pyggs ...		xvj
„ two capons		xij
„ spys ...		vj
„ candells, salt, butter onnyons & mustard ..		vj
„ brekefast of Mr. Justics & for wyne the same tyme		viij
„ for wyne at the dinner at the vycarage		iiij
„ for bred ale after		
„ for the coke & the Tornor of the broche on fryday aft[n]		viij
„ salmon ...		viij
„ heryngs ...		iiij
„ fresfysh & muskuls		vij
„ spyce & leks ...		ij
„ wood		viij
„ bred		xiiij

	s.	d.
Item for horse met thre days ...		xx
„ to the Messenger who went to M[r] Justyes ...		iiij
„ ale		xviij
„ for Sargyants labor about the sayd bestes ...		vj
„ to John Tomon for makyng of the tres for execution ...		iiij
„ for tymber for the same ...		iiij
„ paid to Alice Benbowe at sundry tymes to make M[r] Justys servants & M[r] Lacon's servants to drynk		vj
„ summe of the cost of the cessyns	xxx	iij
„ for the cost of M[r] Bayle & M[r] Charleton at the assyses at Salop for besys of the frahchise	ij	viij
„ for bying of the carpet for the curt house ...		

35 Hy. viij. Admissions of Burgesses by Richard Lee Esq[re] Bailiff.

N.B.—There is no record of the election of a Bailiff for this year, and from the above and subsequent entries it may be inferred that Richard Lee remained in office for two years. It is singular that he admitted burgesses on the day on which he would naturally go out of office. On the other hand, however, there being

[illegible]

no record of the election of Mr. Charlton in the 36 Hy. VIII., it seems as though four pages must have been lost, which must have happened before the book was paged in 1604.

36 Hy. viij. 2 Oct. Memd^m^ of Admission of Wm. Smyth of Walton as Burgess on the 3rd Oct. 36 Hy. viij. in the time of Rich^d^ Charlton bayliff.

36 Hy. viij. S^t^ Thos. of Hereford's Day Election of Thomas More of Larden Bayliff, Rich^d^ Oswald, Coroner, J. Bradeley, Coroner.

38 Hy. viij. 2 Oct. Election of Thomas Lawley.

. . . . Hy. viij. (no year given). Ordinances made 2 Oct. in the reign of Hy. viij. as to the appointments of Steward and Sergeant, &c., attested by the signature of Rychard Lawley.

A short memorandum, without date, in which occur the names of Richard Bentall, gent., and Thomas More, gent.

38 Hy. viij. 14th Sept. Jurati fuerunt Burgens'. Thomas Lawley generos, Rob'tus Lakyn gener, Joh'es Tytley, Willi'mus heyne de Posnall, Joh'es Adams de Wycke, Rog^s^ Mohne de Posnall, Ric'us Bentall, gener.

1 Ed. vj. S. Thos. of Heref^d^. Election of Thomas Bowdler (quere Ludlow) gent^n^ Bayliff, Rich^d^ Dawley, Coroner, Ralph Lee gent^n^ Treasurer.

3 Ed. vj. April. Wm. Adams of Bentall at this Court affore Master Balye is made burges and hath taken his oath.

5 Ed. vj. S. Thos. Election of Tho.s Lawley, Esq. bailiff, Rich^d^ Dawley yeom, coroner, Edmond Sprott, Treasurer. The account of Thomas Lawley follows. Among the burgesses admitted was Edmund Blakeway.

6 Ed. vj. S. Thos. of Heref^d^. Elect^n^ of Edmond Sprott yeoman bailiff, Sampson gent. Coroner, Ralph Bradley Treasurer. The account of Edmond Sprott, yeoman, follows.

8 Ed. vj. Sureties for Mr. Bayle Rich^d^ Bentall generos et Thomas More generos.

1 and 2 Phil. and Mary, 2 Oct. Elect^n^ of Richard Bentall gent. Bailiff, Edw^d^ Duke, Coroner, Rich^d^ Legge, Treasurer. Among the six men is Ralph Lytelhales.

. . . . Phil. and Mary Feast of S. Thos. of Heref^d^. Election of Thomas Rydley, Bailiff, Wm. Byll, Corener, Wm. More Treasurer.

. . . . Phil. and Mary, S. Thos. of Heref^d. Election of Richard Legg yeoman Bailiff, Ralph Litelhale, Coroner, Thos. Hill, Treasurer.

3 Eliz. 3 Oct. Election by the persons subscribed through Ralph Littlehales their prolocutor of . . . Lacon esq^re Bailiff.

5 Eliz. 2 Oct. Burgesses admitted in the presence of Francis Lawley esq^re bailiff Roland Lacon esq^re Rich^d Legge, Edmund Spratt & . . . . Southerne.

5 Eliz. 8 Oct. Election through Ralph Littlehales as prolocutor of Thomas Moor, Bailiff, John Wilcocks (of Burton) coroner.

7 Eliz. 2 Oct. Mem. In the presence of Thos. Ludlow, esq^re Bailiff, Roland Lacon esq^re, Francis Lawley esq^re, Rich^d Legg gent. &c. Thos. Lawley, son of Thomas Lawley esq^re and others made burgesses. On the same date is recorded the election of Rich^d Hotchkiss coroner, and Ralph Eyton, Treasurer.

9 Eliz. 9 Sep. A fine or recognizance du droit taken before Ralph Littlehale gen. bayliff of Wenlock.

9 Eliz. Villa Magn Wenlok. M^d quod nono die Septembris anno regni domæ nostræ Eliz. ab dei gr'a Angl Franc et Hib reginæ fidei defensor &c nono coram Rad Litilhales gen ball dom Reginæ villæ predæ libertatis.

Precipe Ra'ds Bradeley et Catherine ux ejus q^d ten Ric' Bradeley Thomæ Ludelow arm'ger Thomæ Salter genos convencionem inter eos fact de duobus messuagiis duobus gardiniis duobus pom'iis sex acris terræ et una acr' pastur cum pe'tin in Wenlock Magn predicta Et nisi &c.

Et est concordat sci'lt q^d predict' Rad's & Katherina recogn ten'ta predict' cum p'tin esse jus ipsius Rici Bradeley ut illa quæ iidem Ricus Thomas Thomas et Ricus ten't ex dono predict Radi et Katherinæ Et illa remissr' et quiet clam' de se et hered suis predict Rico Thomæ Thomæ et Rico et hered ipsius Rici Bradeley imperpetuum. Et preterea i'idem Radus et Katherina concesser' pro se et hered et ipsius Katherine q^d ipi' w'arr ipsius Rici Bradeley ten'ta pred'ca cum p'tin contra omnes ho'ies in p'pum. Et pro hac recogn remission' quiet clam' warrant fine et concord p'dict Ricus Thomas Thomas et Ricus deder' predictis Rado et Katherine viginti libras. Richard Legge p'me Edmond Sprott, Xrystouer Morrall Arthur Ottley.

10 Eliz. Henricus Cooke de Madeley, Joh'es Broke, admissi sunt et jurati burgenses villæ Wenlok coram Joh'es Broke ar' tunc Ball, Rolando Lacon, Rado Braddeley, Ric. Legge & Christophero Morrall aliis ad . . . ten't coram dicto Joh'i Broke Ball et in anno Reginæ Eliz. 10.

10 Eliz. 1 Apl. A recognizance and execution by George Silliock of Huswinge in Coy Derby Esq^re^ before Christopher Morrall bailiff of Wenlock and Thomas Salter gent^n^ of a bond given by him to Roland Lakyn of Willey in the County of Salop esq^r^ signed George Selyoke.

13 Eliz. 2 Oct. Election of Rich^d^ Ryddeley Gent. bailiff, Wm. Hayes Coroner, Wm. Wylde treasurer.

N.B.—After this entry follows an ill-written memorandum in the same hand, apparently the admission of two burgesses coram Ric. Bentall, gen., Ric. Legg, Christoph. Morrall, Radulph Littlehales, and another.

A.D. 1575, xij die Martii. An ordinance in the handwriting of John Broke, bailiff, bearing his signature and those of Ric. Lacon, Francis Lawley, Thomas Ludlow, Richard Lutley, Rychard Rydley, Rich. Legge, per me Rich. Sprott.

Primo die Octobris anno regni Eliz. d'næ n'ræ Eliz. nunc reginæ xx^to^ Mem that the day and yere last above written a patten of the Stewardshyppt of the town and liberties of Much Wenlock together with one small fee of x^s^ was granted and confirmed by Morys Ludlow Esquier baylyffe of the towne and liberties afforesaid with the assent and consent of other the burgesses & commanty (i.e., commonalty) as also the syx men of the sayd town & libties unto George Lawley gent. for term of his natural life. Morris Ludlow, Jasper More, Lawrence Benthall, Christopher Morrall, Thomas Addams, Rychard Kydson, Rychard Addams, sen^r^, Richard Addams de Wyke, Edward Harwall. Will^m^ Woode.

21 Eliz. 29 Sep. An order as to a defaulting serg^t^ and an ordinance made in the time of Jasper More gent. and signed by himself, Rich^d^ Lacon, John Broke, Francis Lawley, Rich^d^ Legge and others. On the same date follows the election of Lawrence Benthall, Bailiff, Edm^d^ Longley, coroner, Rich^d^ Pychford, treasurer, in the presence of Jasper More gent. Bailiff in the same year.

22 Eliz. Thursday in the Feast of S. Michael Arch. Election of Thomas Lokr Bailiff, Rich^d^ Kydeson coroner.

24 Eliz. 2 Oct. Election of Francis Lawley Esq^re^ bailiff Treasurer W^m^ Wood, Coroner Humfrey Strange.

25 Eliz. 5 Aug^t^ Election of Christopher Morrall Gent. Bayliff till Michaelmas next in the place of Francis Lawley esq^re^ deceased who died after the last Court.

Mem. in English of the surrender made by Francis Fox Esquier on the 4 Apl. 25 Eliz. of a letter patent of the Recordership of Wenlock granted to him by Richard Lacon esq^re^, bailiff and bearing date 24 May 4 Eliz.

29 Eliz. 21 Aug^t^ Rich^d^ Rydley Bailiff.

A.D. 1587. 24 Sep. Villa Magn Wenlock. Mem quod Willm's Fowler armiger xxiv die Septembris anno regni nunc reginæ Angliæ &c. vicesimo nono per assenson. . . burg'en. . . electus fuit Recordator ejusdem vill franscisciæ et libertat de Magnæ Wenlocke præd usque ad festu' Sancti Miches' Arch' ex tunc prox sequendum.

29 Eliz. 31 Aug^t^ Wenlock Magna. Apud Wenlock Magnam vicessimo primo die Augusti anno regni dominæ Elizabeth dei gratia Angliæ Franciæ et hiberniæ reginæ fidei defensoris &c. vicessimo nono coram Rich^d^ Ridlay geno'so Balliv villæ et libertatis de Wenlock magna &c. At which day it was appointed, ordered, constituted, granted and agreed by the sucs. and burgesses of Wenlock aforesaid whose names be underwritten that yn consideration that George Lawley of Wenlock aforesaid Gent. hath surrendered and given up to the sayd bayliff and burgesses all and singular the patent grant and office of the recorder or steward of the town and liberties of Much Wenlock aforesaid to him the s^d^ George for term of his lyfe heretofore given or graunted by any the Baylis or Burgesses of the sayd liberties. Therefore the said Richard Rydley gent. Baylie afores^d^ and the sayd men and burgesses under named and other the burgesses now present do assent consent and agree & by this constitution it is fully determined that the sayd George Lawley Gent. or his sufficient deputie shall and may from henceforth have use exercise and enjoy the office of Town Clarke or chief clarke but nott steward of the Corte of her Majestie her heyers & successors of Much Wenlock aforesayd & the liberties of the same before the Baylie of the town & libties for the tyme being hereafter from tyme to tyme to be holden during the naturall lyfe of the sayd George and shall likewise have and enjoy all such advantage benefytt allowance fees persells duties & comodities for the exercise of the same as Thomas Salter gent. usually had enjoyed or toke lawfully by or for the exercise of the sayd office of steward or clarke aforesayd or by color or . . . thereof. Provided always & it is ment and agreed by all aforesayd that anything above wrytten shall nott in any wyse extend or be taken to excludo the Baylie or Burgesses or the Comynaltie of the town and libertie aforesayd or theyre hyers or successors hereafter from from namyng makyng or ordayning of recorder of the same

towne & liberties herafter according to there Corporation charter in that behalf any matter meaning or thing to the contrary hereof in any wyse notwithstanding.

Lawrence Bentall.	Rychard Rydley Bayliff.	Rad Lacon J. Brooke Morrice Ludlow Will^{m} Wood Rich^{d} Wyke.

29 Eliz. 29 Sep. Election of Thomas Lawley, Esq^{re} bailiff, Rich^{d} Legge treasurer, Rich^{d} Langley, coroner.

30 Eliz. 29 Sep. Election of Richard Wilcocks bailiff, Edw^{d} Harwell treasurer, Wm. Dawley coroner.

N.B.—This entry has been erased, but repeated afterwards, when the name is spelt Wilcox, and he is styled gentleman.

Mem^{m} of the admission of Francis Lacon esq^{re} as burgess on the same day and year, also of John Lutwyche gent., Roger Farnolles, Henry Palmer, and John Pendelbury.

Account of Thomas Lawley esq^{re} bayliff taken 29 Sep. 30 Eliz. in the presence of Rich^{d} Wilcox gent^{n} bailiff, Lawrence Bentall, Thomas Lockyer, Christopher Morrall Gent^{n} and others.

31 Eliz. 23 Sep. Mem. of admission as burgess of Rich^{d} Ould and also of Wm. Shyrbington alias Eyre.

31 Eliz. 29 Sep. Election of Wm. Wood gent^{n} bailiff, Thomas Wever treasurer, and Rich^{d} Kydson coroner. The account of Wm. Wood gent^{n} was taken on Mich^{s} day 32 Eliz.

31 Eliz. 24 Nov. The account of Rich^{d} Wilcox gent. bailiff taken in the presence of Will^{m} Wood Gen^{t} then bailiff Thomas Locor & Christopher Morall Gent^{n}. Among the burgesses admitted in the time of Rich^{d} Wilcox gent. were, Simon Croft, Wm. Bushell, Wm. Wilcox, Thomas Bayly, Rich^{d} Whitopp, John Garbett, Thomas Bushopp of Kynston, Rich^{d} Wolde, Wm. Care, John Burmarshe, & Edward Kydson.

32 Eliz. 29 Sept. Election of John Langley gent. bailiff, Wm. Dawley treasurer, & Rich^{d} Kydson coroner. The account of John Langley bailiff, was taken on Mich^{s} day 33 Eliz. "in p'ntia Jaspi More ba'll."

34 Eliz. 6 Nov. The account of Jasper More gent^{n} Bailiff, which bears the signature inter alios of Thomas Lawley. The admission of William Hord gent. as burgess is recorded this year.

35 Eliz. Lawrence Bentall gent^{n} bayliff. His account is taken next year in the presence of Thos. Loker, John Langley,

& Wm. Wood gent^{n} and other bailiff's peers. It is signed by Thomas Lawley, Thomas Lacon and Rich^{d} Willcock.

36 Eliz. 29 Sep. Compo'tus Laurencii Bentall Gen' ball d'næ Reginæ villæ suæ de Wenlock magna anno regni sui xxxvj^{to} ha'iat cap't et fac't xxix^{o} die Septembris dictæ domæ reginæ pro omnibus finibus amerciamentis prosiones estactis servitiis exitis perquisit curiæ et comoditat quibus cunque perven'int oper'ant et ermergent' de Festo S'cti Michaelis Arch Anno xxxv^{o} usque idem Festum in anno xxxvj^{to} Thomæs Lawley tunc ball villæ libertatis prædictæ coram Thomæ' Loker Joh'e Langley et Willmo Weal gen' ball sibi tunc et ibm assesiatis et Joh'e Waswolde Joh'e Cook Rado Wynne Rico Heynes Francisco Smallman et Willmo Dawley sex homines ejusdem villæ et libertatis secundum consuetudines ejusdem villæ.

	l	s	d
Fines et am'cement			
Gaolæ deliber ...		xxvij	x
Profesina perquisit			
curiæ		viij	x iij
Feod burgen' fac't			
hoc anno ...		liiij	
Bona ffeloni de B deodand in manibus Rici Olde ultimi coronatoris ...		xxx	iij x
In thesauris			
Summe allocata Servientes per billam particular apparet ...		iiij	vj xj
The servants allow'ces for the		iiij	vj viij

	s	d
Ffeod balliv ...	xxvj	viij
Ffeod recordatoris	xxvj	viij
Ffeod coronatoris	ij	iiij
Ffeod thesaur ...	ij	iiij
Ffeod sex ho'ies 6^{l}		

Predictus Laurencius Bentall petit allocat de summa xv^{l} solvebat Rico Old coronatori et etiam petit allocat xv^{s} pro uno pollm . . . et sic remanet (*sic*) in debitat libertati in summa xxx^{s} x^{d}.

36 Eliz. 29 Sep. In die festi Michis Archi viz. xxix Septembris anno regni Elizabethæ dei gratia Franciæ et Hibirniæ Reginæ fidei defensor &c. xxxvj coram Thomas Lawley ar ballivo ibm. R . . . Lacon ar Laurencio Benthall (*sic*).

36 Eliz. 29 Sep. Election of Rich^{d} Old Bailiff, Rich^{d} Cryppin Treasuror, and John Wossold Coroner. In the presence

of Thomas Lawley esq^re R. Lacon esq^re Lawrence Benthall, Thos. Locker, Rich^d Wilcocks, W^m Wood gent. and others. Among the burgesses admitted are Walter Ball of Burton, Ralph Littlehales of Wyke, Henry Old . . . Rich^d Langley jun^r Rich^d Wilkynson of Wenlock, Evanus Davies clericus (Vicar of Wenlock), Francis Langley de le Tuckeys, &c.

The account of Thomas Lawley late bailiff was taken 1 Oct. in the presence of Rich^d Old gent. then bailiff, Lawrence Bentall, Rich^d Wilcocks, Thomas Locor gent. and many others. Computator prædictus onerat se cum v^l iiij^s ij^d recept per Indentur de Lawrence Bentall predict g'en supra compot suum de officio suo ball et cum xv^d recept de Johes Eyer nuper serviens predict Laurencii v^l v^s v^d

37 Eliz. The account of Rich^d Old gent. Predictus Ric'us Olde se onerat &c. et petit allocationem 57^s solvenda Laurencio Bentall gener pro oneratis et expensis suis solutis in curiâ Dominæ reginæ se quiet esse de officio suo predicto. . . . 57^s

Then follows a similar allowance of £3 6s. 8d. for his own expenses in curiâ dom reg se quiet esse de officio suo predicto.

38 Eliz. Mich^s. Election in the presence of Thomas Holland gent. bailiff, Francis Smallman the Coroner, and Edw^d Harwell treasurer, &c. of Thomas Adams of Broseley gent. Bailiff, W^m Dawley Coroner, Rich^d Morrall Treasurer.

39 Eliz. 20 Sep. Compotus Thomæ Holland gent. imper Ball villæ libertate de Wenlock magna fact in villa prædicta vicesimo die de Septembris An reg reg Eliz. nunc &c. 39° coram Thomas Addams gent. (tunc ball de vill et libertat predict) Laurencio Bentall, Thomas Locor, Radulpho Moore et Rico Wilcocks. Burgesses admitted in the time of Thomas Holland, gen. bailiff, Willm. Corfield of Longwalle, John Ashbery of Broseley, Francis Benbow of Much Wenlock, butcher, John Hayward of Wenlock afs^d Taylor, Ralph Wellyns of Longville.

A.D. 1597, 27 Sept. Sets forth an order existing, which renders all persons ineligible for the office of bailiff who have not been admitted a Burgess a year, and proceeds thus :—

Forasmuch as it is well knowne that there hath been and nowe are dwellinge within the precincte of the same libties divers and sundry gentlemen that as well in regard of their wysdomes and knowledge as for their general abilities in wealth

and otherwise have byne and are fytt and able men to take in hand and execute the said office whoe respecting more their own private profitt than the comon wealth of the said towne and libties and understanding of the said order have employed the same to ther owne perculyar benefite contrary doubtless to the good meaninge of those that devised and layd down the same order, & gentlemen have from tyme to tyme withholden and yet do with hould them selves from beinge burgesses of the same town and libties of a very sett purpose as seemeth thereby to keep them selfes from bearing or executinge the said office rather as may welbe intended for the avoyding of such travell and charges as to the same office is incydent than for any reasonable cause them thereto movyng and for that as well the same order as the same subtile desese if it should be longer continued may grow in some sorte to be prejudicial to the same libties and specially to such of the burgesses thereof as thereby shall happen the oftener hereafter to be charged with executing of the said office for reformacon whereof it is by the said Bayliff Aldermen burgesses and comynalty at this time being assembled together considered and ordered that it shall and may be lawfull to and for all such of the said Burgesses as hereafter from tyme to tyme shall happen to be charged with and for the electing of the Bayliff of the same towne and libties to elect and chose for executing of the said office any man being a burgess of the same towne and dwelling within the precinete of the same libties and being sessed of lands and tenements lying within the same of the cleer yearely value of c marks who shall in their consciences seem most fitt and worthy for the tyme then present to execute the same office although the same person have not been a burgess of the same town and libties for the space of one whole yere before the time of the same ellection . . . . and that the order for all such persons inhabitants of these liberties as do so wilfully or polletickly refuse to accept and take the place of burgesses shall be refirred to be further advised of untyll a farther tyme. And this order to stand in force in every branch and article in the mean tyme of the feast of Symon and Jude w'ch shall be in the year of our Lord God 1598 and untyll other order shalbe in this behalf duly taken. Tho Addams Ball, Lone Lacon, Lawrence Bentall, Thomas Locor, Rychard Old, Wm. Hord, John Langley, Richard Richards, Richard Legge.

39 Eliz. Account of Thomas Addams gen. bailiff taken at Michaelmas signed by William Heyward Bailiff, Thomas Locor & Richard Oulde. Among the burgesses admitted in the time of Thomas Addams bailiff were Walter Hancox of Wenlock

Magna, William Sympkiss, William Brooke de Hughlye and others.

40 Eliz. 29 Sep. Election (in the presence of Thomas Adams gent[n] bailiff W[m] Dawley coroner and Richard Morrall Treasurer the six men and others) of Thomas Jukes of Caughley Esq[r] bailiff, Thomas Harwell coroner, Lewis Highway treasurer.

41 Eliz. Michaelmas. The account of Thomas Jeuks esq[r] bailiff of the preceding year bearing the signatures of William Heyward bailiff, Thomas Lawley, Thomas Locor, Richard Wold, and Thomas Adams. Among the burgesses admitted are Francis Acton of Halton gent. Ricus Blakeway de Caughley, and Thomas Smallman de Wenlock magna.

Election of William Wood gent. bailiff, Roger Blakeway Coroner, William Hord gen. treasurer. Election in the presence of Thomas Locor deputy for William Wood gent. bayliff of William Hayward gen. bailiff Rich[d] Langley coroner & Thomas Clyveley treasurer.

The account of William Wood gent. signed by William Hayward bailiff Laurence Bentall, Thomas Locor, Rich[d] Legge & W[m] Horde.

41 Eliz. The names of all the Burgesses inhabitants within the franchise and liberty of Much Wenlock according as they were returned by the several constables of every allotment by virtue of precepts in that behalf unto them delivered taken at Much Wenlock upon Monday the 9[th] day of January anno reg reg Elizabethæ xlj[mo] before W[m] Wood gent. then bailiff, the bailiff peers & six men at a publick assembly in the guild hall there.

MUCH WENLOCK ALLOTMENT.

W[m] Wood (gent. then bayliff of Moch Wenlock)
Evanus Davies (Cl'icus professor Theologiæ Vicarius de Wenlock prædictæ)
Willus Horde de eadem gen.
Ricus Legge de eadem gen.
John Heyward de eadem, taylor
Willus Sympkys de eadem labor'
John Prendlebury de eadem taylor
Lodov'us Clyveley de eadem corviser
Thomas Clyveley de eadem butcher
Johnes Eyre alias Shervington de eadem smith
Ricus Morrall de eadem burnar
Ricus Bradeley sen[r] de eadem burner
Radus Bradeley de eadem burner
Walterus Hancox free mason
Ricus Wilkinson corviser
Ricus Byrde de eadem smith
Ricus Cryppy de eadem weaver
Willus Dawley sen[r] de ead[m] carpenter

Willus Dawley de eadem husbandman
Ricus Dawley de eadem taylor
Thomas Dawley de eadem carpenter
Launcelot Dawley de eadem
Ricus Dawley jun^{r} de eadem weaver
Thomas Lawley de eadem armiger
Georgius Lawley ile now in London gen.
Ricus Francis sen^{r} de Wenlock, arg.
Joh'is Brooke de eadem myler
Thomas Byll de eadem
Will^{m} Hayward de eadem
Will^{m} Fford de eadem weaver
Ra'dus Benbow de eadem
Thomas Sympkys sen^{r} de eadem husbandman
Thos. Sympkys jun^{r} de eadem husbandman
Will^{m} Ball jun^{r} de le Hill
X'per Heywood de eadem smith
Will^{m} Lewes de eadem
John Byard de eadem naylor
John Sotherne de eadem corviser
Thomas Leghe de eadem yoman
Ricus Pinches (?) de eadem ca'pter
Thos. Sutton de eadem dyer
Thos. Legge de ead^{m} smith
Willm's Porter de ead^{m} husbandm^{n}
Edward Harwell de eadem tanner
Thos. Smallman de eadem husbandman
John Bourinsh de eadem weaver
Walter Holland alias wyddowes carver
Thomas Holland de Pickhorne gen.
Nicholas Smallman de Dytton, Farmer

SHIPTON ALLOTMENT.

Joh'is Lutwich de Shipton gen.
Jasper More de Larden ar.
Willmus Hamond
Edw'us Wedgwood de Brockton yom.
Rogerus Farnold de Patton yom.
Will^{m} Brooke de Hughlye
Willm's Parsons de Prestopp husb^{n}
Will'us Sprott de Wigwigg y'om.
Francis Taylor de eadem y'om.
Willm's Taylor de Harcle y'om.

BURTON ALLOTMENT.

Richard Wilcox de Burton
John Doughty de eadem
Roger Wilcox de eadem
Jeremiah Wilcocks de eadem
Ball de eadem yeom'
Edwardus Wilcocks de eadem
Willus Heyward de Widdonsfield
Thomas Harriott de Gough's bradley
Thomas Arundell de Weston yeom'
Willus Crowther de eadem yeom'
Thomas de Hopton
Edw'us Kydson de eadem

Joh'is Weale de eadem
Thomas Reignolds
Francis Smallman de Munkhall
Thomas Harte de Callaughton
Thomas Doughty de eadem
Willmus Enchmarsh de eadem
Launcelot Taylor de Walton
Joh'es Taylor de eadem
Peter Heley de eadm
Joh'is Tarte de Atterley
Ricus Tarte de eadem

STOOKE MYLBOROUGH ALLOTMENT.

Nicholas Heathe de Normecott
Thomas Bishopp de Kingston

EATON ALLOTMENT.

George Jenckes de Newe hall gen.
Franciscus Acton de Halton gen.
Willus Adams de Eaton yeom.
Joh'es Maddox senr de Myllinghopp
Thomas Hamond de eadem yeom'
Thomas Edwards Tycklarton gen.
Thomas Lewies de eadem yeom'
Fulco Punches de eadem
Ric'us Warde de Horton yeom'
Ric'us Englyke de eadm y'om.
Thomas Corfield de Longville
Franciscus Du'ne de eadem
George Browne de eadem
Thomas Gill de eadm
Willms Corfield de eadm
Joh'es Cooke de Luchcott yeom
Willus Blakeway de eadem.

WENLOCK PARVA ALLOTMENT.

Edm'us Downton Cli'cus de eadem
Will'us Hayward de Wenlock parva gen.
Roger Blakeway de eadem yeom'
Willms Parton de eadem
Rogerus Haughton de Beckbury ar.
Rogerus Charlton de Madeley gen.
Henr'us Cooke de eadem yeom'
Thomas Romeshedd de eadem

BROSELEY ALLOTMENT.

Johes Langley de le Amyes gen.
Thomas Langley de eadem
Georgius Langley de eadem
Ricus Wilcox de Broseley gen.
Thomas Addams[1] de eadem gen.
Joh'es Uxley de eadem cli'cus
Edrus Pacey de eadem yeom.
Willmus Geares de eadem glover
Ludovicus Rampes alias Posterne de eadm
Willus Wilcox de eadem
Ric'us Yale de eadem collier
Joh'es Ashbury de eadem taylor
John'es Garbett de eadem
Johnes Adams de eadem
Ric'us Oulde de Rowton gen.
Ricus Langley de le Woodhouse yeom.
Franciscus Langle de le Tuckeys
Ricus Langley de Swynney
Ricus Adams senr de Barrow

[1] For the Pedigree of this family see page 283.

Ricus Adams junr de eadem
Thomas Juckes de Caughley ar.
Ricus Kydson senr de eadem
Ricus Blakeway de eadem
Thomas Locor de la Marshe gen.
Joh'es Davies de Shurlett wood
Will'us Burchall de eadem
Johes Marshe de eadem
Launcelotus Stephens de Acton Scott gen.
Willus Wossold
Radus Maune de Posenall
Ric'us Haynes de eadem
Ricus Childe de eadem
Thomas Haynes de eadem
Laurencius Bentall de Bentall armiger
Thomas Haynes de eadem
Ric'us Haynes de eadem
Andreas Goughe de eadem
Ric'us Adams de Wyke y'om
Radus Littlehales senr de eadem
Radus Littlehales junr de eadem
Joh'es Wossold de eadem
Edwardus Ancox de eadem y'om
Joh'es Simpkys de Bradeley carr

42 Eliz. Michs. Account of William Hayward gent. bailiff signed by Richd Legg, bailiff, Lawrence Bentall, Thomas Loker, William Wood, Raffe Bradeley, Wm. Horde. Election of Richd Legg Gentn, Edwd Harwell Coroner, Ralph Bradley. Among the burgess admitted in the time of Richd Legg are Franciscus Salter gen., Franciscus Legge . . . . Richd Wossolde de Wyke, Thomas Modlicott arm de Wyke, Johes Slaney gen. Londonii mercator Humphries Slayney Londonii mercator.

43 Eliz. 29 Sep. The account of Richard Legg gent.

Election in the presence of Richd Legge gen. bailiff of John Langley bailiff, Richard Slayney coroner, Wm. Dawley treasuer.

44 Eliz. The account of John Langley gent. bailiff signed by Thomas Holland Bayliff, Thomas Lawley, Thomas Locor, Richd Wylcoks Richd Legge. Among the burgesses admitted in the time of John Langley was Richard Leighton son of William Leighton of . . . . arm.

Election before John Langley gent. bailiff of Thomas Holland gent. bailiff, Thomas Harryott Coroner, John Bradshaw treasurer. Among the burgesses admitted in the time of Thos. Holland are Stephen Smallman of Wildertopp arm., William Holland gent., Michael Holland gent., sons of the bailiff, and Richard Jenckes of Ludlow gent.

1 James j. Election of John Lutwich gent. bailiff, Thomas Elyveley coroner, Edward Harwell treasurer. Among the burgesses admitted in the time of John Lutwich gent., bailiff, are, Edrus Lawley gen., fil Thomæ Lawley de Wenlock magna ar., Franciscus Locor de la Marshe gen., Thomas Wilcox de Broseley gen.

9 James j. Mich^{s}. In the account of Richard Oulde gent. bailiff, mention is made of Rich^{d} Lawley late Bailiff and Mr. Morrice Bentall. Among the burgesses admitted in the time of Rich^{d} Oulde was Andrew Blakeway son of Roger Blakeway of Wenlock parva yeom. This Rich^{d} Old was elected bayliff on 9 Sep. in the presence of Richard Lawley esq^{r} Thomas Lawley esq^{r} Stephen Smalman esq^{re}, Francis Lacon gent., and Rich^{d} Legge gent. At the same time Thomas Harryott was elected Coroner and Rich^{d} Morrall, treasurer.

9 James. In curia Francisci Lacon mil vice comes Salop. S. Edrus Clud ar 'ld con cum Jaspo More ar de plito con de manerio de Larden cum pertin in Com predicto xv acras de ter in Upper Larden, Nether Larden, Shipton, Brockton Morehouse Syfton Wall under Eylwood & Bentleyes xlv^{s}. S. Rici Bagott Junior gen. 'ld con cu' Laur' Ludl' gen. de plito con[ventionis] de terr in Astwall Longwild et Rusbury xx^{s}. Siliter pro manerio de Wenl parva inter Sack. & h vij^{l} x^{s}.

12 Jas. j. Election of Wm. Hayward bailiff. Among the burgesses are Joh'es Bradeley de Horsehall gen' Thos. Madoxe de Beckbury ar., Richard Leighton de Leighton ar. Ric. Littlehales de Wyke yeom.

A.D. 1616-17. Account of Thomas Corfield for that year.

A.D. 1617, 20 Feb. Copy of a letter sent from Sir Edward Bromley one of the Barons of the Exchequer Recorder of this franchise to Richard Lawley esq^{re} bailiff from Serjeants Inn, Chancery Lane, remarking upon the decay of influence which the boro' formerly possessed and recommending a better system of managing the finances.

15-16 James j. On Monday 14 April, 1618, a meeting was held at Much Wenlock before Rich^{d} Lawley esq^{re} bailiff and other bailiff peers to reduce the accounts of the franchise into some order and to consider the answering of the letter of M^{r} Recorder of 20 Feb. aforesaid. A precept is issued by the bayliff directed to John Eyre sergeant at mace and his deputies to summon the bailiff peers for a meeting w'ch was holden on 11 August, 1618. Present, Rich^{d} Lawley esq^{r} bailiff, Rich^{d} Ould gent., Rich^{d} Slany, Launcelott Taylor and other bailiff peers. The accounts of some previous bailiffs were examined &c. The Serjeant was away with the ledger and could not be found.

A.D. 1618. Copy of an original direction sent by Sir Edward Bromley to be published on Michaelmas day in that year.

16 James j. Election of Francis Heyward of Monk Hopton bailiff in the presence of Richard Lawley esq^{re} bailiff.

An assembly was held 26 Oct. 16 James j. at Much Wenlock before Richard Ould gent. bayliff, Richard Lawley esq^{re}, Francis

Lawley, esq^re^, Francis Locker, Thomas Corfield, Bayliffs peers, Thomas Clyveley Treasurer, and divers others, among whom is John Bentall.

16 James j. 26 Oct. At this meetinge John Bentall of Bentall of (*sic*) John Bentall Esq^re^ desired qualification of all his respits of homage synce he was retorned tenant of his land in Bentall w'ch is agreed and consented to be qualified to the eighth part for the tyme past in hope he will shortely become a burgess which being cast up came to 61^s^ x^d^ which he payed instantly to the hands of Thomas Cleaveley, Treasurer. The serjeant is allowed xxv^s^ x^d^ chardged upon him in the good money for M^r^ John Bentall respect of homage in the tyme of M^r^ Coates Sheriff of M^r^ Edmond Bullock bayliff.

A.D. 1619, 31 Aug^t^. Record of a meeting at which regulations as to the accounts of the burgesses were made. Copy of an Order made for a rate on the borough as a contribution to the relief of maymed soldiers pursuant to the statute, the original signed by Rich^d^ Ould gent. bayliff and Edward Bromley Kn^t^.

A.D. 1619 29 Oct. a list of armour belonging to the franchise.

17 James j. 29 Sep. Election of Robert Bullock esq^r^ bayliff.

18 James j. 29 Sep. Election of Thomas Hassould de Pyckthorne gent. bayliff. Among the burgesses admitted was John Ball, son of John Ball of Preston.

2 Jan^y^. At a court held this day among those admitted burgesses were, Thomas Wolrich of Dudmaston, Franciscus Ould de Interiori Templo London Armiger filius et hæres apparens Rici Oulde de Rowton infra has ffranchises.

A.D. 1621, Aug^t^ 24. Copy of a Warrant from the Comiss^rs^ for subsidy, Sir Edward Bromley, Sir Francis Lacon Kt., Humphrey Brigges, Walter Acton and Thomas Hoorde to appear at the town hall Bridgnorth at 8 o'clock before noon on the above day.

19 James j. 29 Sep. Election of Francis Loker of the Marsh Bailiff.

20 James j, 29 Sep. Election of Henry Mytton of Shipton esq^re^ bayliff. Among the burgesses admitted is Edrus Harnage de Belswardyne, Ar.

A.D. 1623, 22 Jan^y^. Thomas Wolrich esquier & Henry Mytton Esq^r^ elected Burgesses of Parliament.

21 James j. 29 Sep. Election of Robert Thorne gen. bayliff before Henry Mytton ar. bayliff, Walter Acton ar., Thomas Wolrich ar. and others.

Copy of Writ from the Sheriff of Shropshire for the election of Burgesses and memorandum of the election of Thomas Wolrich esq^re^ and Henry Mytton esq^re^ on 22 Jan. 1623.

Burgesses admitted in the time of Robert Thorne Gen., bailiff, Henricus Mytton de privato cubiculo dni reg, Harecourt Loughton de Plashe ar. Edr'us Acton heres et filius apparens Walteri Acton de Audenham ar, Ricus Newporte de High Arcoll miles, Ricus Fox de Whitchcott miles (these two names written in a large text hand) Thomas Turnour in lege agitus (? peritus) ar Lodovicus Phillips de Ludlow gen' Franciscus Barkley in lege p'itus ar, Ricus Rydley Cl'icus villæ de Bridgnorth gen'.

22 James j. 29 Oct. (*sic*). Election of Edw[d] Bishop de More gent., bayliff.

As usual, after the six men two persons present are nominated. Usually, if not invariably before, the one not nominated by the bailiff has been nominated by the representative of the Lawley family for the time being, but on this occasion the entry is thus :—

Ricus Edares de Broseley p'r Ball'm, Edmundus Taylor de Walton per Walterum arm nomine Henrici Mytton ar Gardian' Ursulæ filiæ et hered Edri Lawley militis defunct. Burgesses admitted amongst others, Will Smith de Wyke gen.

22 Feb. Election of Edmund Bullock of Bradley to be bailiff in the place of Edward Bishop (deceased) until Michaelmas. In the presence of Walter Acton ar, Stephen Smalman ar, Thomas Wolrich de Dudmaston ar, Thomas Turnour ar, Ric. Ould, gen., Franciscus Smalman de Wildertop ar, Fra. Lockor, gen., Edmund Bullock, gen., Thos. Langley gen., Rob[t] Bullock gen., Sam[l] Bowdler gen. and others.

Burgesses made in the time of Edward Bullock of Wyke gent. bayliff.

Arthur Warde of Shynton gen'
Ric'us Clowes de Harnage grange gen'
Ric'us Typton de Ponsard gen'
Sam[l] Moore de Laverdon gen'
W[m] Warren fil de John Warren de le Byrches
Robtus Bullock de Wen Mag gen'
Johis Parker serviens de Rici Lukener miles
Edrus Horton de Buildewas magna yeom.
Jonas Charlnour vicarius Wenlock mag
Franciscus Leighton fil Johis Leighton de Leighton ar.
Ricus Wyke de Prynrslye[1] gen
Franciscus Blakeway fil Willi Blakeway de Patton
Roland's Lacon ar fil Francisci Lacon miles
Silvanus Lacon de West Coppice in Com. Salop gen'.
George Baxter of parva Wenlock cl'icus
Rog'us Moane de Posenhall
Georgius Lacon de Ke[nley ?]

[1] Priorslee, near Shifnal.

1 Chas. j. 2 Ap. Copy of precept from the Sheriff.

7 Apl. Among burgesses admitted are, Thomas Lawley super de London nunc de Spoonhill armig. and Onthemus Lowkeuir de Wyke gen'.

17 May. Copy of a Warrant from Sir Richard Newport and Sir Richard Fox Knts for the trained band both horse and foot to be at Salop 9 Oct. 1625, addressed To the worshippful the bailiff of the town and liberties of Wenlock, for levying men at arms in their bailiwick for the service of the King, signed Rich. Ffox, Robt Leighton.

29 Sep. Election of Robert Bullock esqre bailiff. Warrants to raise an army for the King.

2 Charles j. 22 Augt. Election of Sir John Bridgeman Kt Justice, Justice of Chester as recorder of the town and liberties for life in the room of Sir Edward Bromley deceased. Signed by Robert Bullock, bailiff, R. Newport, Thomas Farnell, Thos. Otley, Thos. Wolryche, Walter Acton, Geo. Adney, Rowland Heines and others.

Among the burgesses admitted in the time of Robert Bullock gent. are, Thos. Otley de Pytchford ar., Johes Bridgman miles, Justiciarius Chester et Recordator villæ de Wenlock, Humfredus Lee de Langley Baronettus, Morton Briggs de Haughton ar., Willm Stevington de Dothill ar., Thos. Owen de Villa Salop ar. Pacis cliens villæ Salop.

2 Chas. j. Michs. Election of Richard Jones Esquire of Much Wenlock for bayliff.

Memm of an order for the expulsion of Thomas Kenrick an attorney from practising in the bayliffs' court for advising suitors to withdraw their suits from this court.

Memm dated 18 Dec. 1626, of a legacy of £5 given by Sir Edward Bromley for the poor and now handed to Mr Adney the preacher of Much Wenlock.

Among the burgesses admitted in the time of Richard Jones esqre Bailiff are, Georgius Bridgman ar. fil et hæres apparens Johis Bridgman mil, Recorder, Franciscus Houghton fil Rici Haughton de Beebury ar.

3 Chas. j. Michs. Election of Francis Adams de Broseley Gen. for bayliff.

Among the burgesses admitted in the time of Francis Adams are, Francis Kynaston de Otley, miles and Ricus Lee de Langley ar.

On 3 Augt 1628 the ledger was read before Francis Adams bailiff and others and various sums were found to be due from previous bailiffs. Mr. Samuel Bowdler is mentioned as town clerk and Mr. Tarte the Curate, in Mr. Hassolds account.

4 Chas. j. Mich^{s}. Election of W^{m} Hayward gen., bailiff.

5 Chas. j. Mich^{s}. Election of John Smalman gen. bailiff, Roger Moane of Posenhall gent^{n} Coroner, Christopher Bradley, Treasurer.

Among the burgesses admitted in the time of John Smalman Gent^{n} Bayliff are Rog'us Bertie, knight of the honb^{le} Order of the Bath, Benjamin Valentine Esq^{r}, Edw^{d} Smalman, Gent., William Page of Middleton gent., Audley Bowdler of Arlescott, gent.

Copy of an order made at the Quarter Sessions at Salop enabling the magistrates of the Wenlock Franchise to commit prisoners to the House of Correction at Bridgnorth. The original order was signed by Rob^{t} Howard Kn^{t}, John Corbett Baronet, Robert Vernon, Rowland Cotton, Andrew Corbett, Knights, Richard Mytton and Rich^{d} More, esquires.

8 Chas. j. Account of John Smallman gent^{n} Bailiff, taken in the presence of Robert Bullock, gent^{n} Bailiff, Richard Jones, Esquire, Francis Loker, Wm. Hayward and Francis Adams gent^{n}.

Allowances, Imprimis given to M^{r} Recorder for his advice in the suit in the Exchequeur against the franchise . . . . . Item deliuered to Christ^{r} Bradley then treasurer to be bestowed in mending and hayling the Courte House and the market house. M^{r} Adney who was at this time Curate of Wenlock is always paid for reading morning prayers.

11 Chas. j. 35 Feb. (*sic*). Adam Littleton esq^{re} one of her Majestys Justices of her Majestys Counsell in the Marches of Wales was and is elected and chosen Recorder of the Town and liberties of Wenlock for the term of his natural life in the place of Sir John Bridgeman Kn^{t}, Chief Justice of Chester, who refused the said office of Recorder by reason of his weakness and disability of body to travel and also by reason of the multiplicity of his occupations. Signed by Francis Houghton bailiff, and many others.

28 Feb. Election of Francis Houghton esq^{r} bailiff before Adam Littleton esq^{r} Recorder, who is requested to peruse and alter the constitutions.

Account of Francis Houghton ar. Bailiff from Mich^{s} 11 Chas. j. to Mich. 12 Chas. j. One of the items is, M^{r} Adney for reading morning prayers 20^{s}.

13 Chas. j. Lawrence Bentall arm. elected 'Justice' for the year. Mich^{s} Day Election of Lawrence Bentall of Bentall esquire bailiff. Account of Lawrence Bentall Esq^{re} Bailiff, from Mich^{s} 13 Chas. j. to Mich^{s} 14 Chas. j. John Deyes is mentioned as coroner and Roger Parsons as treasurer.

14 Chas. j. Mich^{s} Day. Lawrence Bentall of Bentall esquire was sworn Justice of the peace for the liberties aforesaid for the following year.

15 Chas. j. Michas. John Huxley Gent. bayliff, Lawrence Bentall esq^{re}, Edmund Bullock gent^{n} and others, bailiffs.

15 Chas. j. Michas. Election (in the presence of George Langley bayliff, Lawrence Bentall esq^{re}, Edmund Bullock gent^{n}, Roger More gent^{n}, Edw^{d} Byssope gent^{n}, preceding bailiffs called bayliffs'. peers and many others, Andrew Blakeway being among the electors) of George Langley and Lawrence Bentall, who were sworn Justices of the Peace of the liberties for the following year.

In the account of Francis Haughton bayliff, M^{r} Adney receives xx^{s} for reading morning prayers. This is in accordance with the following ordinance:—Imprimis for the honor of God and maintenance of Divine Service within the sayd town of Much Wenlock, it is ordered that 20/- yerely be payed to the Curate there for the tyme being for saying of divine service at 6 of the clock every the morning throughout the whole year. Another Item is—for beer bestowed upon those that carried halberts before M^{r} Bayliffe at the first fair. Item, for dinner on Midsummer Day £1 1 3.

16 Chas. j. Michas. Coram George Langley gen. ball, Lawrence Bentall armig, Edmund Bullock, gen., Roger More, gen., Edwo. Byssope gen. bailijs.

29 Sep. Monday at Much Wenlock. Mem^{m} that at a general assembly of the bailiff, burgesses and commonalty of the said franchise and liberties by and with a full and general consent of the said assembly Lawrence Bentall of Bentall esquire was elected and chosen to be Justice of the Peace of our Soveregn Lord the King for the said franchise in the place of Richard Jones esquire deceased. George Langley Bayliff, F. Bullock, Ri Cressett, John Weld, Roger More, Geo. Adney, James Lewes, Job Page, Thos. Moye (? More).

18 Chas. j. Michas. Day. Election of Henry Mytton of Shipton esquire bailiff, John Steenton, coroner, John Mason treasurer, Lawrence Bentall esq^{re}, William Walker gent. justices for the following year.

21 Chas. j. 19 March. Mem^{m} that Edmund Bullock, Francis Adams, John Huxley sen^{r} and many others among whom was Andrew Blakeway, elected Andrew Bowdler of Arlescott sen^{r} gent. to be Bailiff till Michaelmas Day following in the room of Robert Thorne of Spoonhill gent., defunct.

The account of Francis Adams Gent^{n} Bayliff, made 29 Sep. 1645. Signed by John Huxley, Thomas Lockier, George Adney and George Langley.

N.B.—There is nothing in this account which bears on the civil war then going on around and even within the franchise. The residents at Wenlock appear to have been very cautious, but it would appear that the bailiff was obliged to do certain official work, in describing which he made many obliterations, and which eventually forms the following item :—

Item for sending forth all manner of warrants beside what are above mentioned £4 7.

This was a most extraordinary sum, compared with the usual disbursements for the purpose, and left the bailiff a creditor of £3 1s. 8d.

22 Chas. j. 27 June. Ordinance for making a list of burgesses, fees, &c. Among the burgesses present were Sir Morton Briggs Bar^t, Francis Adams, Francis Forster, Humfry Briggs mil and George Adney.

13 July. Ordinances as to the affairs of the Corporation, including one for a sermon being preached on Michas Day for the edification of the burgesses and a rule that no one shall vote at the election who was absent from hearing the sermon.

19 Sep. At a comon hall or assembly houlden at Much Wenlock the 19^th^ day of September A.D. 1646 anno reg. reg. Caroli nunc Angliæ &c. xxij^o^ by Audley Bowdler gent. Bayliffe, Bayliff peers and Burgesses of the town and liberties of Wenlock aforesaid w^th^ an unanimous consent it was ordayned constituted and agreed as followeth—Whereas Francis Smith gent. is by ordinance of Parliament adjudged a delinquent and so represented to this common assembly of the Bayliff, Bayliff Peers and Burgesses for which he hath been committed and his estate real and personall sequestered to the use of the State—This assembly are agreed to displace and amove the said Francis Smith from his place and offices of Comon Clarke and Clark of the Peace of the said town and liberties of Wenlock for the causes aforesaid. And this assembly are also agreed and have choosen Michael Stephens of Ascott gent. to be Comon Clarke and Clarke of the Peace of the aforesaid Borough of Wenlock in the stead and place of the said ffrancis Smith who is displaced for the causes aforesaid. To have and enjoy the same by patent under the common seal of this franchise and liberty for term of his life according to the

charter of this liberty. This order constitution and election was subscribed with the names of the said Bailiff and Bailiff Peers and Burgesses underwritten, and the said Michael Stephens was sworn before the said Bailiff and Burgesses the time aforesaid to execute the said office,--Audley Bowdler, Ball, William Fowler, John Dawes, Francis Adams,

Robert Lee	Fran Cooke
Jo Mayer	Ffra Parsons
Rich Blakeway	Thos Parkes
Andrew Blakeway	Edw Leighton
John Wedgwood	Jo Baldwin
Edwd Ffewtrell	Rich Wickstead
Andrew Bowdler	Tho Lockier
Edward Oxton	Roger Mone
Walter Carter	Edm Bullock
Andrew Langley	John Huxley
Richd Habberley	Geo Langley
Humphrey Bowdler	John Hamond
Thos Adams	Wm Hassould
William Nock	John Tilley
Rich Kenrick	John Davys
Jo Heynes	Many other Burgesses there what consented.

30 Septr. In the presence of Andrew Bowdler gentn bailiff, and others. Election of Sir Humphrey Briggs, Knight as representative of the boro' in Parliament at Westminster in the place of Thomas Littleton. Here follow the signatures.

John Baldwyn	Oliver Richards	George Ludlow
Thos Adney	Rowland Haberley	Wm Fowler
Francis Sprott	Andrew Bowdler Ball	Ric Cresset
George Adney	Morton Briggs	Jo Leighton
George	Francis Forester	John Corfield
Richd Clowes	Fr Adams	John Dawes
John Wareham	John Huxley	Rich Ridley
John Littlehales	Roger Moane	Nichs Sleepham
Edwd Smalman	Wm Walker	Edw Baldwyn

23 Chas. j. Michas. Day. Humfrey Mackworth esquire elected Recorder instead of Sir Adam Pointz Littleton deceased.

29 Sep. At a common hall held by Andrew Bowdler Gent., Election of John Huxley gent. Bayliff.

24 Chas. j. The account of Audley Bowdler gentn Baylift for all fynes &c. which came to his hands and to the hands of Thomas Harwell his Serjeant otherwise during the tyme of his Bayliffwick . . . . Imprimis it' is allowed for sending abroad

warrants upon divers occasions it being in the prime of the unnatural war between the King and Parliament £3 8.

A.D. 1651, 29 Sep. In the presence of Thomas Moore gent. and Thomas Lokier gent., Richard Taylor named by the Bayliff to be an elector, Ri Littlehales of Wyke named by the Lady of the Manor to be an elector.

A.D. 1652, 29 Sep. Election of John Mason of Much Wenlock gent. for Bayliff.

A.D. 1653, Michas. Account of John Mason gent. Bayliff. Election of Henry Langley gent. for Baylift.

30 Jan^{y}. Election of a bayliff in the place of Henry Langley gent. who died on Monday night last. Thomas Lockier gent. was elected bayliff for the end of the year of M^{r} Henry Langley.

A.D. 1654, 29 Sep. Election of Audley Bowdler gen^{n} Bailiff.

A.D. 1655, 29 Sep. Election of Thomas Howells of Larden gent, bailiff. Among the burgesses admitted this year was Rich^{d} Moore of Linley gent.

A.D. 1656, 29 Sep. Election of Michael Stephens gent. bailiff. George Carter was the elector named by the Lady Bartie.

A.D. 1657, 29 Sep. Thomas Adams the younger of Barrow gent. elected Bailiff. Among the burgesses admitted in the time of M^{r} Bailiff Adams was Thomas Synor of Bentall.

A.D. 1658, 26 May. A common hall was held to elect a bailiff in the room of Thomas Adams gent. deceased till Michas. next. Thomas Lokier gent. was elected. Burgesses admitted 18 Jan^{y} 1658, Sir Francis Lawley, Bar^{t}, Thos. Whitmore esq^{re}, Adam Ottley esq$_{a}$, Samuel Baldwin, esq^{re}, John Wood gent., Thomas Blackway, Edw^{d} Littleton gent., Rich^{d} Littlehales and others. Account of Thomas Lockyer gent. bailiff, and Thomas Adams bailiff.

N.B.—At the foot of the page on which the above is entered is the following :—

Burgesses admitted in the fore sayd year Sir John Pershall, Bar^{t}, Richard Fowler, Richard Scriven, Richard Hatley, Henry Sprott, esquires, John Lacon gent., John Seamer, John Blakeway, Gerrard Barnett.

1658, June xv. Margaret Harper of Willey and Christopher Morrall of Much Wenlock and Oliver Parsons of Bridgnorth vouchers for the said Margaret hath this day and yeare afores^{d} in open ffaire at Much Wenlock soulden unto M^{r} Hugh Deakin of the Bould in the County of Salop gent., one bay mare about 13ten handfull high with a slitt in the left yeare of the price of ij^{l} v^{s}.

29 Sep. Election of Francis Huxley of Broseley gent., bailiff, Rich^{d} Mynton coroner, Jasper Cliveley, treasurer.

A.D. 1659, 1 Nov. Account of Francis Huxley bailiff.

Election of John Warham gent. bailiff.

16 Chas. ij. 19 July. Account of Michael Stephens bayliff 1656-7 taken before Henry Sprott Esq^re^ then bayliff.

2 Jas. ij. Election of Francis Loker gent^n^ bailiff.

PEDIGREE OF ADAMS OF BROSELEY.

I.—William Adams of Cleeton, near Bitterley, Salop, had issue, with others, William and John, both called of Cleeton.

II.—William Adams of Cleeton, married and had issue.

III.—William Adams of Cleeton, married Isabel, daughter of Thomas Hopton of Bitterley, by Margaret Lutley, and had issue.

IV.—William Adams of Cleeton, married Ursula, daughter of William Gower of Ridmarley, Co. Worcester, and had issue.

V.—William Adams of Cleeton, married Frances, daughter of Richard Forster of Sutton Madoc, and had issue a sole heir.

VI.—Anne, sole heiress of Cleeton, died a widow, buried at Broseley 19 December, 1637, married Francis Adams, and had issue.

VII.—Charles Adams had Cleeton from his mother, and sold it. Married Mary, daughter of Francis Forster, buried 3 March, 1688, and had issue.

VIII.—William Adams buried 6 Oct., 1728, married Anne, daughter of Walter Grey, and had issue. 1. William, of whom hereafter; 2. Anne, bap. 19 May, 1684; 3. Mary, bap. 12 July, 1691.

IX.—William Adams married Mary, sister and coheir of Ralph Browne, and had issue. 1. William, of whom hereafter; 2. John, bap. 1 Nov., 1730, obt. infans; 3. Elizabeth, bap. 24 Aug., 1743; 4. John, bap. 5 March, 1739, who married and left issue.

X.—William Adams, bap. 8 July, 1733, married Eleanor, daughter of Henry Fermor, and had issue, a sole daughter, Eleanor, married 2 Feb., 1779, John Jones of Broseley, buried there 1820.

PETITION OF THE CORDWAINERS OF THE TOWN OF SALOP IN A.D. 1323-4.

Translated and Edited by the Rev. C. H. DRINKWATER, M.A.

The document following amply warrants the conclusion which Chancellor Burn of Carlisle was perhaps one of the very first to draw, but to which numerous writers of note have since given in that adhesion—viz., "that Gilds and Fraternities were in use in this kingdom long before any formal licences were granted to them." It is, indeed, just possible that the Tanners of Salop, who are mentioned in this petition, were, in some way or other, formally recognised before A.D. 1479, which is the date assigned to their Charter by Walford and others, but as yet we have had no formal evidence of it. Formal recognition was, however, seldom claimed before necessity seemed to make it indispensable, so that, in this respect at least, the Cordwainers seem to have had a decided advantage over their adversaries: their petition for the King's Charter *was granted*, and is still to be found in the Public Record Office. It is no doubt the same that is referred to in the Cal. Rot. Pat., and there said to have elicited from Edw. II. a Charter of Confirmation. The notice in the Calendarium, in the 17th year of that King, runs thus, "Libertates confirmatæ cordewanariis villæ Salop." Now this is quite 156 years before the date assigned by Leighton, Walford, and others to the establishment of the Tanners as a Chartered Gild. This petition, moreover, states that the Cordwainers had "libertates" before this time, yea, "even from time immemorial." It is, therefore, probable that the Cordwainers, as a

Fraternity, were anterior to the Tanners, and that the latter were, in the first instance, an offshoot from them, for the craft of the former involved the whole process from the dressing of the raw skins (coria recentia) to the finished slipper, boot, or buskin, while the Tanners were only concerned with the general preparation of leather, a commodity used in a very large number of handicrafts, and disposed of wholesale, in such form and such condition as was best suited to each, but which they themselves did not work up, as did the Cordwainers, into any article of personal use.

It is not easy to decide for how long a period the mandate issued in reply to this petition was reckoned as a valid licence, probably only during the reign of the then King, Edw. II. It seems to have been ignored in the very next reign by the Tanners, for 40 years later (A.D. 1361-2) the liberties of the Cordwainers seem to have required a further confirmation. Nor even then was the contention set at rest, for in the reign of Rich. II. (A.D. 1387-8) a third confirmation was granted, the index-title of this last being in much the same form as the two proceeding, "Quod cordewannarii Salop' possint tanniare, et aliæ libertates." We may notice that the date even of this last confirmation is more than 100 years earlier than that usually assigned to the Tanners, and although we do not find in the "Calendars" any notice of their having obtained distinct recognition, we may not think that they had remained so long without some standing in the eye of the law when the Cordwainers had been more than once so distinctly recognised. It is quite plain that during the 14th and 15th centuries the Tanners had been increasing in wealth and influence, and having already broken away from the Cordwainers were assiduously using every effort to destroy their independence. Brentano, as quoted by Hibbert, puts this in a clear light when he says, "Sometimes the richer craftsmen withdrew from their poorer brethren into separate gilds, as for instance . . . . . the Tanners from the Shoemakers." These latter

would be restricted by their proper handicraft from extending their business beyond the necessities of their occupation, while, as we have seen, the Tanners would find customers for their wares among a variety of other crafts to whom leather was in greater or less degree absolutely necessary :— Saddlers, Armourers, Blacksmiths, Glovers, Whittawers, Cappers, Cobblers, Girdlers, Harness-makers, and others, who used leather in one way or another in their various handiworks.

The separation alluded to may have been made in the previous century, 40 or 50 years before, and the friction which now declared itself affords palpable evidence of the envy and jealousy which had arisen between interests that were constantly clashing. It is, moreover, likely that the Bailiffs were more inclined to favour the Tanners than the Shoemakers, or were more under their influence. A certain amount of partiality seems to have been exercised by them, and they richly deserved the rebuke which the Mandate of the King, indirectly perhaps, but not less really, conveyed. Now the Bailiffs for A.D. 1322 and 1323 were Galfrid Randolf and John Baldwyn, while those of 1324 were John Reyner and Thomas Colle, junior. It was, probably, under the rule of the former, who were in office two successive years, that the acts complained of were perpetrated, for though the exact date of the Mandate is not given, new Bailiffs were not elected until the first Sunday after the 1st September in each year.

The Tanners seem to have been habitually liable to overstep their powers. Their refusal as late as A.D. 1656 to allow a Committee appointed by the Corporation to examine their "Composition" resulted in a prosecution being instituted against them.

The Petition itself, written on a slip of vellum, is in the technical Norman French, used in legal proceedings at that early period (afterward abolished by Edw. III. at the close of the 14th century). It is a curious mixture, not altogether free from Latin words and phrases, not difficult to understand, when the writing

is plain, but very puzzling wherever the scribe has spelled a word phonetically, or literally rendered the Latin legal-phraseology of the times previous to the Conquest.

A nostre Seigneur le Roi[1] et a son conseil prient les Cordewaners[2] de la vill de Salop' et par la ou eus et leur auncestres et tous ceux de leur mestier[3] en la dite ville de temps dont memorie ne court, ount usee de tanner quyrs[4] a leur vol'nte sanz disturbaunce ausi avant com les tannours de mesme la vill et sur ce sire a vostre dreyn[5] estre illuges ascun debat fut de ceo entre les Tannours et les Cordewan'es de mesme la ville,

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[1] Edward II. began his reign on the 8th July, 1307. The date of this petition must have been previous to the 17th year of this King, viz., in 1323, 4.

[2] *Cordewaners*, usually spelled in more modern English cordewainers. Spanish leather, from *Cordova*, was called Cordevan, corrupted also into *cordwayn* or *cordewayne*; whence a shoemaker is still technically called a cordwainer.

> Puts on his lusty green, with gaudy hook,
> And hanging scrip of finest *cordevan*.
>
> Fletch. Faithf. Sh. i. 1.

So Spenser :—

> Buskins he wore of costliest *cordwayne*.
>
> Spens. F. Q. 6., ii. 6.
>
> (Nares' Glossary).

[3] *Mestier*.—This word has been by some derived from *mysterium*, i.e., *vitæ modus*, a trade or occupation, an *artificium* (Cowel) or from *ministerium*, an office, or a service (Blount). In modern French it is *mêtier*, which Brachet thus explains : "*Mêtier*, trade. In the 10th century it was written *mistier* (see the poem of S. Leger) from L. *ministerium*, an office; then, employment: lastly, daily occupation, trade, and is so used in Carol. documents." Nares gives another definition, Perhaps, however, it is rather from *maistery*. An apprentice is bound that he may learn the "art and mistery" of such a trade.

[4] *Quyrs* or *suyrs* : which latter seems a mistake. In modern French *cuir*, hide, skin, leather, from L. corium.

[5] *Dreyn*, same as *darrein*, *ultimus*, i.e., last, now *dernier*, which was formerly *derrenier*, *derrainier*, from O.F. *derrain*. So far Brachet, who does not seem to have met with *dreyn*. With the word next but one to *dreyn*, viz., *illuges*, as I read it, I am not at all satisfied. Mr. W. Boyd translates it "*there*," but I cannot warrant either the reading or the rendering.

sur quey sire vos mandastes[6] vostre bre sous vostre prive seal[7] as Bailiffs[8] de vostre dite ville q'eux enqueysont si les dites Cordewan'es avoient usee leur mestier de tannerie en la forme souzdite p' quele enqueste est trovee q' les Cordewan'es de la dite ville de tut temps avoient usee de tanner suyrs[4] en leur mesons a lur vol'nte, la quele enqueste est retornee en Court souz le com'une seal[9] de la vill. Et sire nient contresteaunt cele enqueste les ditez Tannours ount attachez tous les biens trovez en leur mesons de tannerie et les destorbent ore q' eus ne poent le dit mestier useer. Par quez, sire, les ditez Cordewan'ers vous prient q' vous leur voillez graunter p' inspeccioun[10] de la dite enquestre b're sous vostre g'nt seal q' eus pussent user lur dit mestier[3] de Tannerie ausi com eus et leur auncestres et les gents de lur mestier[3] de tut temps avant ount usee et q' leur biens ore de novel attachez en leurs mesons de Tannerie leur soient deliv'ez.

Mandetur ball's Salop' q'd p'mittant Cordewanarios infra scriptos coria in villa Salop' p' voluntate sua tannare prout &c. et destrictiones ad nos &c.[11] quas &c. relaxari faciant.

There is no signature or seal subjoined to this document, which may therefore be regarded as an "office

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[6] *Mandastes*, the Latin would be mandâstis, contracted from mandavistis.

[7] *Seal*, now *sceau*, another O.F. form was *séel*, which afterwards became *seel*, whence *sceau*. In Italian the word is *sigillo*, which preserves the Latin *sigillum*.

[8] *Bailiffs*.—These, as noted in the introduction, in A.D. 1322, 3, were John Rondulf and John Baldwyn. If we could discover the *mistery* of these men, light might possibly be thrown upon the motive for their zealous partisanship.

[9] *Commune seal*.—"Before the time of William the Conqueror the English did not seal with wax, but they usually made a golden cross on the parchment, [or] an impression on a piece of lead, which hanged to the Grant with a string of Silk, and this was held a suffieient confirmation of the Grant itself, without Signing or any Witnesses" (Blount).

N.B.—This is a very early instance of the town having a common seal.

[10] *Inspecioun*.—*Letters patent* were called an *inspeximus* because they usually began with this word after the King's title.

[11] These *etceteras* are very perplexing, but although we cannot *extend* the passage, we do not doubt of the meaning, for they refer to separate clauses in the body of the petition.

copy," the original having been transmitted to the Fraternity and carefully preserved in their chest. The following is a translation :—

"The Cordwainers of the town of Salop present their-petition to our Lord the King and his Council in behalf of the town or themselves and their ancestors and all those of their mistery in the said town from time out of mind who have used to tan skins at their pleasure without disturbance ever before, just as the Tanners of the same town and upon this Sire at your last being there without any question made of it between the Tanners and the Cordwainers of the same town, accordingly, Sire, you issued your writ under your privy seal to the Bailiffs of your said town enjoining them to make enquiry whether the said Cordwainers had used their mistery of tannery in the form submitted, by which inquest it was found that the Cordwainers of the said town had from all time been used to tan skins in their houses at their pleasure which inquest was returned into Court under the common seal of the town And, Sire, notwithstanding that inquest the said Bailiffs have seized all their goods found in their houses of tanning and at this time hinder them so that they cannot use the said mistery. Wherefore, Sire, the said Cordwainers pray you that you will grant by an *inspeximus* of the said inquest a writ under your great seal that they may be able to use their said mistery of tannery just as they and their ancestors and the people of their mistery from all time previous have used and that their goods now lately seized may be delivered to them."

[Then is added an endorsement or subscription in Latin as follows :—]

[Mandamus]. "Let it be a mandate to the Bailiffs of Salop that they permit the Cordwainers within-written to tan skins in the town of Salop at their pleasure as heretofore &c. and that they cause the distraints on our behalf if any &c. to be relaxed."

The lack of personal names in this document, only perhaps an "office copy," is much to be regretted. The petition itself would, no doubt, have been signed and sealed by the office bearers and the principal men of the Cordwainers' Fraternity, and from the seal we might have gathered how far recognition had previously been given to them. We must, however, content ourselves with the few facts which may legitimately be gathered from the petition itself, hoping that some document will hereafter be brought to light which will clear up the difficulties arising from insufficient data.

The meagre notes appended will be found useful to those who have not had previous experience of this kind of writing. I have not been able to extend the two *etceteras* in the Mandamus from want of the legal technical knowledge of that period. I may here add, in corroboration of the importance of the two trades at that period, that no persons other than resident householders could engage in either of them, for we have the notice of an ordinance of the 11th year of Henry III., 1226, 7, addressed to the "Burgenses de Salopia," which runs thus :—"Quod non emant infra Burgum Salopiæ coria recentia vel pannum crudum nisi sint in lotto et scotto &c."

SELATTYN: A HISTORY OF THE PARISH.

By The Hon. Mrs. BULKELEY-OWEN.

(Continued from 2nd Series, Vol. VI., Page 98).

THE RECTORS.

The Clergy Institution Book in the Diocesan Registry at S. Asaph only dates from 1681. We are therefore unable to give the early Rectors of Selattyn.

In a MS. in the Bodleian numbered "MS. Blakeway 15'," we find:—

"*William Spark*, persona, ecclesiæ de Solatten 7 Ric. II. bound to pay 60^{s} towards the relief of John le Strange of Blakmere, Chivaler."

It is impossible to say if "Solatten" of 138 84 is the same place as "Sulatton" of 1391, but it seems highly probable.

It is also difficult to see what connection it had with John le Strange; moreover, the last John le Strange of Blackmere died in 1375.

His daughter and heir, Elizabeth, married Thomas Mowbray, Earl of Nottingham, and she died s.p. 23rd Aug., 1383, leaving her aunt Ankaret (sister of John le Strange, her father) her heir.

Ankaret married Richard Talbot, son and heir of Gilbert Baron Talbot, who was summoned to Parliament from 3rd March 7 Rich. II. as "Ricardo Talbot de Blackmere." [1]

[1] *Historic Peerage*, Nicholas, p. 454.

There may have been some connection between the families of Le Strange and Fitz Warren, for we read in Eyton that John, great great uncle of the last John le Strange of Blackmere, was born and baptized at Whittington, Sept. 16, 1266; and that "in Septr., 1287, being then in the custody of Anian, Bishop of St. Asaph, he made proof of his age, and had livery of his paternal inheritance." (Inquis., 15 Edw. I.)[1] His mother was Alianore, daughter and coheir of William de Warren, Lord of Album Monasterium or Whitchurch.

In all probability John le Strange, to whom William Spark had to pay relief, was a cousin of John le Strange of Blackmere. He was Lord of Knocking, which, together with Selattyn, were both in the Deanery of Marchia.

He was summoned to Parliament 20 Aug., 7 Richard II. (1383), and died about 1398,[2] or before 1404.[3]

Robert ap Howel. Ob. 1518.[4]

John ap Robert. No date.[5]

Robert Staney. Inst. by Bishop Warton, 1537.[6]

The Staney family were of considerable importance amongst the Burghers of Oswestry in the 16th and 17th centuries.[7]

They were granted the right to bear Arms upon the Herald's Visitation of Shropshire in 1623, which had been refused by the previous Herald in 1584, who denied to Robert Stanney of the Liberties of Oswestry, and to John and Roger Stanney of the Town of Oswestry the "name, title, and Dignitie of Esquiers and Gentlemen."

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[1] Eyton, vol. x., p. 23.

[2] *Hist. Peerage.* [3] Eyton, vol. x., p. 263.

[4] *Hist. S. Asaph*, p. 669.

[5] Browne Willis's *Survey of St. Asaph.*

[6] Ibid. Robt. Warton, Bishop of St. Asaph 1536-1554, also Abbot of Bermondsey until the Dissolution in 1539.

[7] They, probably, originally came from Stanney, in Cheshire.

Robert Staney, rector of Selattyn, was the son of Richard Staney the elder, mercer, who died in 1540, and whose Will, together with those of the rector and his brothers David and Richard, have fortunately been preserved for us and are in Somerset House.

Robert Staney must have been educated at Oswestry Grammar School which was founded by David Holbache in 1404.

He was admitted to Oxford University on Feb. 7, 1529-30.

His first preferment that we have any record of, was that of rector of St. Christopher le Stocks in the city of London, 28th March, 1536.

He probably owed his appointment to the marriage of his eldest sister Blanche with a wealthy London citizen, Richard Raynolde, Sheriff of London in 1532. He expresses his gratitude for "her kindness to me shewed" in his Will.

We learn from Stow that the value of St. Christophers before the fire was £62 1s. 4d.[1]

It was called "le Stocks" from the market of that name near which it stood, which was founded about 1282 by Henry Walleis, Lord Mayor, who "caused divers houses in this city to be builded towards the maintenance of London Bridge, namely, one void place near unto the Parish Church called Wooll Church on the north side thereof, where sometime (the way being very large and broad) had stood a pair of stocks for punishment of offenders. This building took the name of those stocks, and was appointed by him to be a market place for fish and flesh in the midst of the city."[2]

We cannot enter into the whole history of S. Christopher's, that belongs to the history of London. Suffice it to say that Robert Staney must have seen it at the height of its beauty, with its chantries un-

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[1] Stow's *Survey*, Book v., p. 11.
[2] Stow's *Survey*, Book ii., p. 194.

touched,[1] and its wealth of church plate, ornaments, jewels and vestments.

It was rich in the bequests of the citizens. No fewer than three Lord Mayors and many rich aldermen and citizens had been buried within its precints.

I would refer my readers, to enable them to judge in some degree of the magnificence of S. Christopher's, to the Inventory of its possessions in 1483.[2]

The Church and the Parsonage in which Robert Staney lived were burnt in the great fire. The former was re-built in Threadneedle Street, but was taken down in 1780 to make way for the Bank of England.

The present private drawing office of the Bank stands upon the site of the Church. The old churchyard is now an enclosed garden.[3]

When the Church was removed the parish of S. Christopher's was joined to that of S. Margaret, Lothbury.

The Registers of St. Christopher's do not begin until 3 Elizabeth, and as Robert Staney died in the last year of Phillip and Mary, his name does not appear therein.

In the book of Records in which the parish leases are entered it occurs:—

28 Henry VIII., 22 Dec., 1536. Robert Stanney Clark, parson with the Churchwardens lets certain premises.

30 Henry VIII. Sir Robert Stanny Clark and the wardens let other premises.

31 Hen. VIII., 11 Febry. Robert Stanny Clark, parson and the wardens let other premises.

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[1] The Chantry Act was passed 37 Hen. VIII.

[2] "S. Christopher le Stocks. Minutes of the Vestry Meetings, E. Freshfield, 1886." (British Museum Press Mark 10,350, h. 16); also S. Christopher le Stocks, "Accompts of the Churchwardens," E. Freshfield, 1885. (Press Mark 10,350, h. 12); and "Parish of S. Christopher le Stocks," E. Freshfield, 1882. (Press Mark, 10,350, h. 2).

[3] We are indebted for this information to the Rev. Arthur Ingram, Rector of S. Margt., Lothbury.

And so on until the 35 Hen. VIII. After this date no more entries of leases occur until the reign of Elizabeth.[1]

Brown Willis says that Robert Staney was appointed to the Vicarage of Meifod in 1537, the same year as to Selattyn.

It may seem strange that as witness to his father's Will he is only named as "Clerke and person of Sullatton," but the Will being written at Oswestry would account for this.

We have no record of his management of the parish of Selattyn or of Meifod, being a pluralist, he was doubtless a non-resident.

His name appears but once as signing the Inventory, 7 Edward VI.

It is, however, greatly to his credit that he resigned the Vicarage of Meifod in 1540, in favour of David Edwards, son of William Edwards of Plasnewydd, Constable of Chirk; and that he resigned Selattyn in 1553.

He was doubtless buried at St. Christopher's according to his desire.

Below I give the Wills and those of the Draper family to which they allude.

Richarde Stanye the Elder of Oswester Marcer.
(Will 5 Alenger.)

15 November, 31 Hen. VIII.

To be buried in the Parische Churche of Oswester, in the Chapell of o'r blessed lady[2] even against & before the Image & picture of Saint Margaret the Virgine.

Item I will that my executors incontynent after my decease shall prepare & by a Marbill Stone graven to cover my grave w^t^all & that to be substanciall after an honest sort. . . I

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[1] I am indebted for this information to Dr. Edwin Freshfield.

[2] "The Service of Our Lady, founded off certen lands and tenements heretofore given [by Thomas, Earl of Arundel] to the ffindinge of two prestes to celebrate att the aulter off Our Lady wythin the parishe churche of Oswestre." (Chantry Certificates Salop, 40, 41).

And so on until the 36 Hen. VIII. After this date no more entries of issue occur until the reign of Elizabeth.[1]

Browne Willis says that Robert Stokes was appointed to the Vicarage of [illegible] in 1507, the same year as to Selattyn.

It may seem strange that [illegible] in his father's Will he is only named as "[illegible] and parson of Selattyn," but the Will being written at Oswestry would account for this.

We hear nothing of his management of the parish of Selattyn or St. Martin; being a pluralist, he was doubtless a non-resident.

His name appears but once as signing the Inventory, 1 Edward VI.

It is, however, greatly to his credit that he resigned the Vicarage of [illegible] in 1546 in favour of [illegible] Edwards, son of William Edwards of [illegible], Constable of Chirk; and that he resigned Selattyn in 1553.

He was doubtless buried at St. Christopher's according to his desire.

Below I give the Wills and Notes of the [illegible] family to which they allude.

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

geve & bequeth xiij gownes in the Honour of God & the twelfe apostilles whiche gownes my will is that they be bestowed to iij old auncyent & discrete poore men . . to every sonne & doughter of my loving brother John Draper xx^{s} sterling a pece . Item I will & charge my sonne David Staney & his heires. . that he finde observe & kepe an anuall dirige or obite duringe the space of a hunderth yeres . . . painge yerely therfor xiij^{s} iiij^{d}. . . I geve & bequeth to the hyght altare of the aforenamed parische Churche of Oswester for my tithes negligently forgotten or unpaied at sundry tymes vj^{s} viij^{d} to the mayntenaunce & reparacon of the said Church of Oswester v^{li} sterlinge.

Item. I wyll that in all goodly haste after my decease an inventory be taken & made by my loving cosing John Price, clerke & person of Whitton & that they be equally & indifferently devyded & partyd at the oversight of my executours & my weddid wife Jañ verch David lloid app Owen. . in three severall partes. . . the firste parte to pay my debtes legacies. . . Item the seconde parte so devyded I do give & bequeth to be equally & indifferently devyded in several parte betwixte my wel beloved sonnes, that is to say Thomas Staney, David Staney, M^{r} Robert Staney & Richard Stanye ye yonger, & that they & every of them do aggre & content themselves to his por'con bymitted & equally devyded without any gruge, malice, hatridde or debate one to another for the especiaiall love & kindnes that I being ther father naturall thereunto have shewed & bestowed uppon them.

Item the 3rd parte I bequeth to my loving wedded wife Joanne as her dower . . . . Blanche my eldest doughter & wife to Master Richard Raynolde, citizen of London . . . my doughter Jane being wif to one Master Watson Citizen of London . . . Johan my doughter being wif to Jenn lloid . . my doughter Elizabeth being wif to Edwarde lloid . . . . my welbeloved Nevewes John Price & person of Whitton & Hughe ap John of the same towne draper.

Item I will that my sonne Thomas Staney may have his election of my best standing Cupp with his cover double gilt . . . David Staney have upon his election the neest of gilding bolle.

Witnesses John Price clerke & person of Whitton[1] Owen

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[1] Witness also to the Will of Robert ap Howell, 1541. See Chap. IV.

app David curate[1] Robert app Howell Alderman, John app Thomas, Edward ap Meredith alderman of the same towne of Oswester, Richard Baker, Borges," & me Thomas Stanney & me David Staney Robert Staney Clerke & person of Sullatton & me Richard Stancy the younger."

Proved 15 April 1540, P.C.C.

Will of Richard Staney of Oswestre, Draper.

1542. (13 Spert).

"To be buryed in the p'yshe Churche of Oswestre wtin the grave of my brother parsone Stanye yf it may be convenyently ells ymmedyatlye adjoynyng the same . , . to Sir Owen my gostly father xx^{s} . . . to the reparcion and buylding of the Churche fvye poundes sterling . . . to the buylding of a new scole within the Churche yarde fyve pounds sterling . . . unto myne Eldest sone Richard Staney one hundreth poundes starling . . . to my doughters laufully begotten betwixte me and my wyddyde wyfe that ys to seye Katheryn, Margaret, Jane, Dowce and yf it be Goddes pleasure that she be lighted of a childe where w^{t} she goith nowe to every one of theyn threescore poundes sterling apece" (to his "basterd children" Thomas Staney, Elizabeth and Margaret "ten poundes" each) to Elenour my weddyd wife three hundreth markes starling . . . my Suster Jenett lloyed Jev'n lloid is wyfe fyve poundes . . .

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[1] Owen ap David was Curate of Oswestry as early as 1521, for he is mentioned in the Will of "David Edmonde clericus. Oswester dated 5 Nov. and prov. 22 Nov., 1521." He leaves to "Dom. Roberti Baker 5^{s}" to celebrate a trental for his soul; "to Dom. Owine ap David curat ii^{s};" his goods movable and immovable he leaves to "Richard Hanmer cleri." (Will Somerset House, "Maynwaryng 18.")

Peter Brereton, fifth son of Sir Randle Brereton of Ipstones, Shocklach, and Malpas, Kt., Chamberlain of Chester 21 to 23 Hen. VIII., Kt. Banneret and Kt. of the body to Hen. VII., was Vicar of Oswestry as early as 20th Hen. VIII. (1528-29), and 22 Hen. VIII. (1530 31), when he is the defendant in a suit with Thomas, Abbot of Shrewsbury, concerning the tithes of the Parish Church and Parsonage of Oswestry. (Star Chamber Proceed., Bundle 17, No. 380, Bundle 18, 242, Bundle 20, 76 and 80, Bundle 24, 223, Bundle, 25, 8).

Peter Brereton, Vicar of Oswestry, was the plaintiff in a suit concerning collecting tithes and offerings in the Church of Oswestry at Easter without his authority. 29 Hen. VIII. (1537-38), Randall Ireland, Richard Baker, Robert Lloyd and others were the defendants. Star Chamb. Proceed., Book 6., No. 291, and Bundle 21, 359.

to every childe of my Syster Jonet lloide xx^{s} . . . xx^{s} to every childe of my Nevewe Robert lloide . . . . . xx^{s} to every childe of my Syster Elizabeth Staney wyfe to Edward lloide[1] . . . to Gruff lloide his doughter xx^{s} now being unmaryed . . . to every child of my Nevewe Thomas lloyd[2] xx^{s} . . . to every childe of my Cosyn Edward Draper xx^{s} . . . to every childe of myn uncle John Draper xx^{s} . . . to the childe of my Nece Cicelye doughter of Jev'n lloyde xx^{s} . . . xx^{s} to be devyded betwixte Dowce Drapery's children . . . xx^{s} to be devyded betwixte Margaret Drapers children . . . to my Cousyn John price parsone of Wittenton xx^{s} . . . Elenour Verch David my weddid wife . . . John ap David lloyde my brother in lawe. . . . .

In witness John Price, Owen ap D'd Clarke etc.

David Stanney's[3] *Will. (47 Alenger).*

1547.

I, David Stanney . . . to be buried in or lady Chauncell by my mother in the Churche of Saint Oswalde King & Martir . . to John Wynn Stanney my nephewe & to his heires in fee simple all my landes wt'in the towne & Lordshipp of Osestree . . . Elizabeth my sister . . . myne uncle Richarde Blodwell[4] . . . my brother Thomas Stanney[5] . . . Margaret ap Hewe my wiffe.[6]

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[1] Of Llwynymaen.

[2] Second son of Ievan Lloyd of Park Promise.

[3] Another "David Stanney, Gent." occurs in the Oswestry Register as "buried May 29, 1596."

[4] Son of John Blodwell of Oswestry, by Margaret Lloyd v. — Lloyd ap Thomas Lloyd o Fodlith. Llyfr Silin, *Arch. Camb.*, Series v., p. 119. The names of John and Richard Blodwell occur amongst the earliest list of Burgesses. Richard Blodwell was supervisor to the Will of Ed. Lloyd of Llwynymaen, 1544. In the Oswestry Corporation Records we find 8 April, 2 Ed. VI., "M^{d} That this day Richard blodwall gent. lyften'nt of Osestrie delyv'ed on gret Crosse of Selver & gylt unto the said elecc'on" [house]. See *Bye-Gones*, Feb. 28, 1877.

[5] Ibid. "M^{d} that the said day Thomas Stancy gent. on of theldr men of the said Towne delyv'ed xv^{li} sterling to thys of the towne to be kept in the com'yn coffre of the townes money."

[6] In the sentence confirming the Will, the widow is described as "Margareta Stanney alias price," the inference being that she had re-married one Price

Robert Staney's Will (33 Wells).

In the Name of God Amen. The 13th daye of September 1557, I, Robert Stanney p'sone of the parsche churche of Seynt X'pofer beside the Stocke in London, being in goode & perfect mynde & memorye, lawde be to God, neverthelesse somewhat sicke of bodie do make & ordeyne this my present testament & last will in maner & fourme folowinge. That is to saye, I bequethe & comende my sowle to Almightie God my savyor & Redemer & to our blessed ladye his mother & all ye holy companye of heaven, beseeching hym to have mercye on my sowle. And I will my bodie to be buryed at the highe aulter in the saide parische churche of seynt x'pofer.

Item, I will that at my buriall there be a sermon & payenge therefor vis viiid. Item, I will to haue ij braunches of white waxe, vj staffe torches wt a devout nomber of preiste & clerke.

Item, I give & bequeth to dame Blaunche flormanⁱ vli in memoriall of her kindnes to me shewed whom I make my sole executrix.

Item. I give the said Blanche my sister a salte of sylver with a cover p'cell gilt of ye value of vi*li.* xiij*s.* iij*d.*

Item. I give to the saide Richarde my brother my lesser nutte p'cell gilte of iij*li.* value or thereaboute.

Item. I give to my ladye forman ij spoones of the xij Apostles and my best golde Rynge wth stone.

Item. I bequeth my gowne of violett ingrayne wt my gowne of pukeⁱⁱ lyned wth taffata to Elizabeth Chyrke.

Item. I give and bequeth my ffroche of worsted faced wth Coney to John her sonne.

Item. I bequeth my shorte gowne faced wth Seynt Omers worsted to Richard his brother her sonne.

Item. I give to John Mynton sexton of xp'ofers myne olde longe gowne furred wth lambe.

These being witnesses Thomas Wytton the scryvenor and notarye publique Robert Brigges goldesmythe and Davye Draper with other.

Proved P. C. C. 3 Feb., 1558.

Will of John Draper of Oswestr, 18 *January* 1534.[3]

He leaves his body to be buried "in Christian buriall in the Churche of Saint Oswalde the Martyr." . . . . .

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[1] His eldest sister.

[2] A kind of stuff. Also the colour puce.

[3] Will. Somerset House. Hogen 23.

He bequeaths his house to his son "Hugh Draper."

"The residue of my goodes" to his wife Jonet, and to John Draper, Richard Draper, and Hugh Draper his sons, whom he made his executors.

Witness his brother for

"Owen David, Curate of Oswestr." [1]

"Edward ap Robert and others."

"*Will of Johanne Draper.*" [2] *2 April, 1540.*

"late wyff of John Draper of Oswaldestre."

"I bequeathe to Edwarde Draper myne eldest sonne all my landes and tenements which my husband John Draper and I the said Jenett have been possessed of, in the liberties of Oswaldstre to my three younger sonnes Richard Draper, Hugh Draper, and Thomas Draper, a house and a barn and all the land belongyng unto . . . in the towne of Whyttynton and within the said lordshipp of Whyttenton. . . . .

The Oswestry Corporation Records are signed on 21 October, 1586, and 17 Feb., 1587, by Alixander Staney, and Roger Staney was bailiff there on 16 Oct., 1584. He was alive on 8th May, 1586. It is probably the marriage of his daughter that is recorded in the "Marriage Licenses," Bishop of London.

1588, Sept. 7.—John Ingledewe of Staple Inn, gent., and Ellinor Stanney of St. Christopher le Stocks, spinster, daughter of Roger Stanney, late of Oswestry, Co. Salop, gent., deceased.[3]

This was the last year of Robert Staney's life. His successor, John Glynne, was appointed to St. Christopher's 29 January, 1558.[4]

Besides Robert Staney the rector, we find others of the family connected with Selattyn. We have seen in Chapter IV. that Thomas Staney lived at Oldport, and that he was dead before 1562. His death is, probably, that which is recorded in Selattyn Register as "Thomas ap Robert Staney bur. at Oswestrie 26 Dec. 1557."

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[1] See note 2 to Will of Richard Stanye the elder.

[2] Will. Somerset House. "Alenger 6."

[3] *Bye-Gones*, Dec. 3, 1879.

[4] Newcourt's *Repertorium Ecclesiasticum*

The Oswestry Registers only date from the succeeding year. We have no clue as to the house in which his son Robert Staney, husband of Eleanor Hanmer, lived in Selattyn, but the Registers give us the baptisms of his children and grandchildren.

The Registers of Oswestry and Selattyn supply us with information respecting many of the family. It is impossible to give with any certainty their degrees of relationship, so we think it better to give the entries in chronological order.

26 Nov., 1570. Lui'e Staney was gossip to Gwenhwyvar daughter of Sir William Maurice at Oswestry.
15 Dec., 1583. Thomas Staney son of John Staney and Anne Verch Edward were married at Selattyn.
8 Oct., 1587. Thomas Staney and Ann Kynaston were married at Oswestry.
29 May, 1596. David Stanney gent. bur. at Oswestry.
18 Sept., 1596. Gwenhwyvar Staney wife of John ap Edward was buried at Selattyn.
20 Dec., 1597. John Staney was buried at Whittington[1]
25 Feb., 1606. Thomas son of Thomas Staney gent. buried at Oswestry.
16 Jany., 1622. Catherine wife of Thomas Staney gent. bur. at Oswestry.
12 Sept., 1625. Richard son of Thomas Staney gent. baptized at Oswestry.
21 Nov., 1630. Richard son of Thomas Staney gent. buried at Oswestry.
12 Sept., 1637. Thomas Staney gent. bur. at Oswestry.
21 Mar. 1657. Mrs. Thomas Staney widow buried at Selattyn.
26 Feb., 1707. Edward child of Charles Staney by [illegible] his wife baptized.

STANEY or STANNEY of PORKINGTON.

Harl. 1396, fol. 298b. Harl. 1241, fol. 127.

ARMS—*Quarterly 1 and 4 arg., a chevron betw. 3 pewits gu. 2 and 3 arg. a chevron betw. 3 trefoils sable.*

[1] The only Staney I found in Whittington Register.

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

ROGER STANNEY, of Oswestry. = ...

John Blodwell, Burgess of Oswestry. = Dau. of David ap Griffgoch ap Jem ap David Vychan ap Jer ap David ap Kawred.

Richarde Blodwell.

Richard Stanye, the elder, of Oswester, mercer, Will dated 15 Nov., 31 Hen. VIII., prov. 15 April, 1540. = (1) Johanetta,[1] dau. of John Blodwell, of Oswestry. (2) Johanne, dau. of David lloid ap Owen.

Johanne Staney, Will 2 April, 1540. P.C.C. = John Draper of Oswaldstre, Will 18 Jany., 1534. P.C.C.

Edward mentioned in Richard Staney's Will, 1542. = John.

Richard mentioned in Mr. Robert Staney's Will, 1557. = Hugh. Thomas.

Thomas Staney, son and heir to Richard Staney the elder. Alderman of Oswestry, in April, 2 Ed. vi. (1549). =

David, exect. to Edw. Lloyd, of Llwynymaen, 1544, Will dated 13 Sept., 1558, prov. 3 Feb., 1558-9, heir his Nephew John Wyn Stanney. =

Margaret ap Hewe. for B. Can. L. Feb. 1529-30, adm. 7 Feb. Oxford University Register. Rector of S. Christopher 28, March, 1536—1558, Rector of Selattyn, 1537—1553. Vicar of Meifod 1537—1540. Will 13 Sept. 1557, prov. 3 Feb., 1558. = Mr. Robert. Sup.

Richard, of Oswestry, draper, Will 1542. = Elenour, Verch David.

"Parson Stanye," mentioned in brother's Will, buried at Par. Church, Oswestre, before 1542. There was a John Staney at Oxford, 1510.

Richard, sworn Burgess 29 June, 1565, Bayliffe of Oswestry 20 June, 1572, and 28 Nov., 1603, signs Corporation Records 3 May, 1582, and 8 June, 1583, [2]

Margaret = John Trevor (fychan), of Oswestry, Bayliffe 10 Jany., 21 Elizabeth, 1578, and 28 Nov. 1603.

Jane. Dowee.

Catherine bur. at Whittington, 6 Sept. 1638. = Edward Lloyd, of Drenewydd, Whittington.

Dorothy = William Cowper, of Oswestry.

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[1] Johanetta, d. of John Blodwell, is given as wife of Richard Stane hên in Llyfr Silin (Llwynymaen) *Archæo. Camb.* 5th Series, No. 18, and in *Herald Visit. Shrop.* Joanne, verch David Lloid ap Owen is the wife mentioned in his will.

[2] There is a Chalice belonging to Oswestry Church, dated 1575, the gift of "Richard Stannus." Oswestry Register gives the burial of "Richard Stanney, gent., 9 January, 1606," and of "Richard Stanney, gent., April 4, 1610."

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Blanche, Executrix as "Dame Blanche fforman," to her brother, Robert Staney, Parson, 1558. Mar. Sir W. Forman, 30 Aug., 1544, (see Faculty Office Licence). Her Will prov. 1573-4.[1]

=(1) Rich. Raynolde, citizen, Sheriff of London, 1532. Will 1543, (20 Spert).
(2) Robert Palmer, citizen and mercer of London. Will dated 5 May, 1544, (12 Pynnyng).
(3) Sir William Forman, Knt.[2] Haberdasher, Lord Mayor 1538, son of William Forman, of Gainsborough, Lincolnshire, bur. S. George's, Botolph Lane. Will dated 1546, (30 Alenger).

Jane=William Watson (native of co. Salop), citizen of London. Will 1559. P. C. C. fo. 4 Mellershe.

John. Anne. Blanche=(1) Dunstan Walton. Will 1571-2. (10 Daper).
(2) Sir Thos. Skynner, Kt., Ld. Mayor, 1596. Will 1597, (51 Cobham).

Johan=Jevan Lloyd of Park Promise 2nd or 3rd son of Meredith ap Howell, of Glascoed, by Damasin, dau. of Richard Ireland ap Roger Ireland, ap Sir John Ireland.

Elizabeth, bur. Oswestry 10 April, 1590.=Edward Lloid of Llwynymaen, Constable of Oswestry Castle, Will prov. 16 Decr., 1544, dated Nov. 14.

Richard of Llwyn-y-maen.=Elizth., d. of John Tarbock, of Oswestry. ↓

Jeuan. John, of Drenewydd. Heuge, of Ial. Marget=Edward Kinaston, of Hordley.

Robert, mentioned in Will Rich. Staney.=Gwenhwyvor, d. of William Edwards, of Plasnewydd, Chirk.

Thomas, men. in Richard Staney's Will 1542.=Annys, dau. of Harry ap Sir John. *(Her. Visit).*

Mr. Richard (Priest). David. John. Cicelye, men. in Will Rich. Staney, 1542.=George Briggs, of London. *(Her. Visit.)*

Roger, son and heir. *(Her. Visit).* Richard, Bayliff of Oswestry.=Anne, d. of Andrew Charlton, of Apley.

Richard Kyffin of Twyford. Thomas, of Aston. Edward. William.

[1] She bequeathed "one hundred smockes of lockeram or canves to one hundred poore women at Oswestry," and also subject to her suit in Flanders being "recovered," one hundred pound to Oswestry for a lending fund, and fifty pounds to the free school there.

[2] Sir William Forman was one of the 12 Knights, brave wealthy citizens that lent the King (36 Hen. VIII.), money upon lands mortgaged to them. Sir W. Forman lent £300. Stow's *Survey of London*, Book I., page 282. One Thomas Forman gave £5 per ann. to the poor of St. Christopher's, issuing out of a house in Cornhill, within the said parish. Stow's *Survey of London*, Book II., page 131.

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

Alexander Staney. ∓
(Her. Visit.)

Robert Staney ∓ Anna, d. —— Draper.
(Her. Visit).

Thomas Staney the younger, son and heir to Robert Staney, Burgess in Oswestry, bur. at Oswestry, 26 Dec., 1557, lived at Oldport. ∓ Gwen, d. Jem ap Rhys, ap David ap Gwill'm. *(Her. Visit.)*

Robert, Godfather, at Selattyn to Elizabeth, d. of Moris Hanmer, 18 July, 1567, bur. 2 Dec., 1613, at Selattyn. ∓ Eleanor, dau. of Thomas Hanmer (brother of David Hanmer) buried at Selattyn 10 Nov., 1608.

Anne, mar. 31 Oct., 1568. ∓ Robert ap Richard, ap Howell, (mentioned in Will 1596, of Edward, ap David ap William, to whom he sold lands in Selattyn. (See Chap. IV.)

Gwenhwyvar, chris. at Selattyn, 31 Oct., 1569. Gossipps, Robert Staney, Gwenhwyvar Staney, and Gwenhwyvar verch Edward.

Richard, ap Rob. Staney chris. Oswestrie, 23 Aug. 1566. ∓ Ales d. of Edw. ap David, ap William of Pentrewern. (His Will 1596, Chap. IV.)

John, ap Robert Staney, chris. Selattyn 6 Nov. 1572. ∓ Katherine.

John, born 24 Oct., bur. 26 January, 1620.

Margaret, chris. Selattyn, 31 May 1570. Gossipps, David Hanmer, Margaret verch Roger, & Anne Staney, bur. Selattyn 25 Aug., 1570.

Robert, ap Richard Staney, chris at Oswestrie, 22 Nov., 1599, bur. Selattyn, 1 July, 1602.

John, ap Richard Staney chris at Oswestrie 21 June, 1602, bur. Selattyn, 21 Jany., 1682. ∓ Ann, bur. Selattyn 3 Jan., 1678.

Jane, chris. at Selattyn, 8 Nov., 1643, buried there 13 Jany., 1687.

[1] Saunder Staney, Burgess of Oswestry ∓

Sissilie Staney ∓ Thomas ap Rhys ap Morris ap Jevan Gethin, ap Kyflin.
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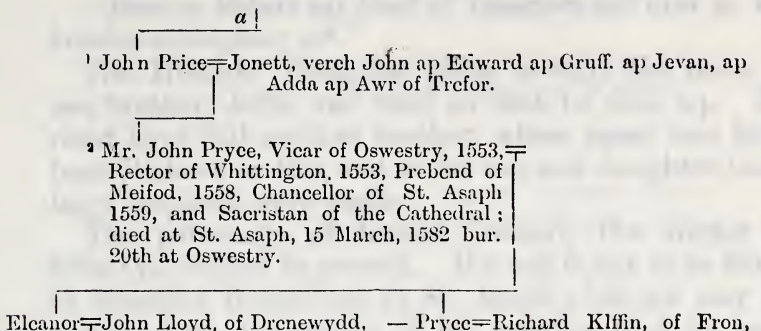
[1] See Llyfyr Silin *Archæo. Camb.* Series V., p. 117 331.



Robert Ireland, LL.B., 6th July, 1 Mary (1554), by presentation of Thomas Hanmer[3] (pro hac vice).

We find the name of this rector in the Exchequer first-fruits Composition Books,[4] which tell us that at that date "Robert Ireland Clk entered his Composition for the first-fruits of Salatyn, extended at £12 9s. 6d. as tythe thereof 24/11½.

"Sureties Hugh ap Edwarde of the Towne of Shrewsbury, Draper, and John Davyes of Oswestre Yeoman, £11 4s. 6½d."

A branch of the Ireland family of the Hutt and the Hale, Co. Lancaster, had settled at Oswestry in the 14th century, and in 1434 we find Richard Ireland, receiver of the Lordship of Oswestry for King Henry VI. His sons Robert and Thomas, also Richard, Edward, Res, and David Ireland appear in a book containing the names of Burgesses prior to 1546.

In 1490-1, David Ireland was made a freeman of the Mercers Co. of Shrewsbury, and one item in his will may possibly refer to our rector. It is as follows :—

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1 It has been suggested that he was the Vicar of Whittington referred to in Wills 1540, 1541, and 1542, and not his son.

2 Preferments taken from *History of St. Asaph*. John Pryce compounds for 1st fruits at Oswestrie, 23 March, 7 Edw. VI., (1553) Exchcq. Comp. Bk. P. Record Office.

3 Of Pentrepant, acting for the Lord of the Manor.

4 Book iv., P. Record Office.

"*Item to Robert ap Ruc*[1] *of Oswestry 50*^{s} *also to my brother's doughter 40*^{s}."

The Heralds' Visitation gives us only the name of one brother, John, and tells us that he died s.p. He must have had another brother, whose name may have been Richard or Res, and to his son and daughter these large bequests were made.

The parentage of Robert Ireland, the Rector of Selattyn, cannot be proved. His will is not to be found at Somerset House[2] nor at St. Asaph; but we may be certain from the names of his sureties that he came from Oswestry or Shrewsbury.

Hughe ap Edwarde was the founder of Shrewsbury School, for which he obtained a Charter Feb. 10, 6 Edward VI. (1551).

This yeare by the labor of one Hughe Edwa'ds of Salop and late of London merc' . . . . was laboryd to the Kyngs m^{ti} for anwetie of xx^{li} for and towa'ds the mayntenance of a free scole in the sayd town of Shrewsbery.[3]

The other surety, "John Davyes of Oswestre, Yeoman," I am not able to identify; he may have been a connection, as we see from the pedigree that Elianora Ireland married Hugh Davis of Oswestry.

Thomas Hanmer of Pentrepant was a Burgess of Oswestry himself, and in all probability he would further the interests of the son of one of his fellow-burgesses.

Robert Ireland's appointment to Selattyn was shortly followed by two other preferments in the Diocese.

By the presentation of the Bishop of St. Asaph[4] 28 July, 2 Mary, Robert Ireland Clerk entered Composition of first-fruits of the Rectory of Manabon otherwise called Manavon.

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[1] The writing of this word is very indistinct, it may be "Rec."

[2] The only will of a Robert Ireland at Somerset House is too early. "December, 1502, Robert Ireland to be buried in the Church of St. Mary Magdalene [no place stated] bequest to wife Elizabeth."

[3] See *Hist. Shrews. School.* He was second son of Edward Edwardes of Kilhendre, Par. Dudleston, Co. Salop.

[4] Bishop Warton.

Extended at £8 18s. 2d. as tithe thereof 17/10 remaining clear to be paid £8 0s. 4d.

Sureties for Robertus: William Runkorne of the Parish of St. Brigide London Merchaunt tayllor and Thomas Brooke of the same parish Skynner.

Also

12 March, 1 and 2 Philip and Mary, Robert Ireland compounded for first-fruits of Denbigh £8 15s. 1 March, 17/6 remaining clear to be paid £7 17s. 6d.

Sureties: Barth'us Carrawaye de Hospicio Richi Sackvyle militis[1] and Nich'us Crane[2] of the same Hospital Generosus.[3]

We find from a MSS. book at St. Asaph Palace that the appointment to the Vicarage of Denbigh was made by Thomas Yale on Oct. 1, 1554 (five months before the composition was paid). He seems to have acted for the Archbishop of Canterbury during the vacancy of the See of St. Asaph, Bishop Warton having been transferred to Hereford in 1554, and Bishop Goldwell not being consecrated till May 12, 1555.

He appoints "Robto Ireland . . . . salutem in D^no^ ad vicaria et par'chialis de Denbygh."[4]

Robert Ireland had relations living in London, which may account for his London sureties for Manafon. We find in the Calendar of Wills of the Court of Husting—

Will prov. 25 July (Monday next after the F^t^ of St. James the Apostle) 1352, that Bartholomew Denmars or Deumars, Corder . . . . . To be buried in the Chancel of the Church of

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[1] Richard Sackville knighted 1547 was Chancellor of the Court of Augmentation under Edward VI. and Mary, and Treasurer of the Exchequer under Elizabeth.

It appears from his will, dated 1556, that he had been in the habit of paying certain revenue "for the sustentation of the poor alms folks at Lewes and Grenested, which he perpetuates by will." The subsequent foundation of Sackville College, East Grinstead, Sussex, was by the bequest of his grandson Robert Sackville, second Earl of Dorset, in 1609. (See Collins's *Peerage*, vol. ii., 107, 108).

[2] George Crane signs the Inventory of Ch. Goods, Ed. VI., as Vicar of S. Alkmund, Shrewsbury, 1552.

[3] Exchcq. Comp. Bk. iv.

[4] D. Llyfyr Coch Asaph, fol. 9. Thomas Yale was made Prebend. of Vaenol 1564.

S. Lawrence . . . . . to John Ireland and Dionesia his wife of the same . . . .[1]

Dated Monday next after F^t^ of Ascension (17 May) 1352.

Also in the same Calendar of Wills we have one prov. 28 Oct., 1395.

Thomas Irland, Skinner.

as to his tenements in London . . . . To Katherine his wife he devises his dwelling-house and shop in the street of Cornhull in the par. of S. Michael upon Cornhull, acquired by him and Matilda his late wife to them and the heirs and assigns of the testator.

After the decease of the aforesaid Katherine the same is to remain to the rector and parishioners of S. Michael's aforesaid for pious uses for the good of his soul, the souls of Robert his father, Isabella his mother, of the aforesaid Matilda, Katherine and Katherine (*sic*) his wives, of Johanna the mother of Richard the King, of Edward the Prince of Wales, of Simon Sudbury, late Archbishop of Canterbury and others.

Dated London 6 May, 18 Rich. II.[2]

The Ireland family seems to have lived on in London, for John Ireland, Citizen and Salter of London, lived in the Parish of St. Mildred's, Bread Street, for 60 years. He died there 25 June, 1614, aged 83, and was buried in St. Mildred's Church, June 29, together with his wife Elizabeth, who died 2 April, and was buried 13 April, 1613, aged 75.

This John Ireland gave £200 to the Salter's Charities, was deputie of the Bread Street Ward for 15 years, and was the first Master of the Salter's Company. He was therefore a person of great influence, and was living at the time of our rector. We are further told that he was married for 49 or 50 years, and that he had 12 children.

Possibly it was to one of his daughters that Dame Margaret Hawkins, widow of the Rear Admiral of the Fleet against the Spanish Armada, who founded the

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[1] Calendar or Wills of the Court of Husting, Roll 80 (135).

[2] Ibid, Roll 124 (20).

Royal Naval Hospital at Chatham on 27 August, 1594, and was buried at sea,[1] left a beautiful bequest.

Her will in the Court of Husting, London, was prov. Monday next after the Ft. of S. S. Tiburcius and Valerian (14 April), 1621.

To be buried in the Church of St. Dunstan in the East near the monument erected to Sir John Hawkins my late husband . . . . . To god-daughter Margaret Ireland two "carcanettes[2] of gold," the one weighing 2 oz. and a half "lacke pennyweight" containing 23 pieces set with pearl, with a jewel pendant of 5 Diamonds; the other containing eleven buttons, being massy Spanish work enamelled, and set with pearls, with a jewel pendant having in it three diamonds, three rubies and one very fair pearl . . . .

Dated 23 April, 1619.[3]

But to return to our Rector, he is described in the Records of Denbigh as "Magister Robert Ireland, Presbyter, in Legibus Bacchalaurens, Prebendarius de Meliden etc. Vicarius de Denbigh et in eadem residens, sed non hospitalis."[4]

The final clause of this entry does not refer to residence in a Religious Institution, but is the answer to the Archbishop's usual inquiry as to whether the Vicar do "keep hospitalitie."

Robert Ireland was made Canon of S. Asaph 1553, and Prebendary of Meliden and Treasurer of the Cathedral 1558. He resigned the Rectory of Selattyn before this last appointment, for Robert ap Howel begins Selattyn Register as rector there in April, 1557.

He was not buried at Selattyn, and the Denbigh Registers do not date back so far.[5]

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[1] Stowe's Survey.

[2] Diminutive of carcans, i.e., necklaces.

[3] Calendar Ct. of Husting, Roll 298 (5).

[4] *Ancient and Modern Denbigh*, p. 355.

[5] One Robert Ireland was Rector of Christleton, near Chester, 1560. This could hardly have been our rector, as the succeeding rector of Christleton was not appointed until 1598, the date of his death. (See Ormerod's *Hist. of Cheshire*). Another Robert Ireland matriculated at Balliol Coll., Oxford, 6 April, 1583, aged 19.

Richard Ireland, the third son of David Ireland, to whom his father left a house in Mardol, Shrewsbury, was said to be Vicar of Welshpool. This seems highly probable, as his name does not occur on the Mercers Co.

The last of the family amongst the clergy of St. Asaph was John Ireland, who was Vicar Choral of the Cathedral in 1607, and Vicar of the Parish of St. Asaph.

M^d^ that upon Tuesday being the xxvj^th^ daie of September 1626, at midnight John Ireland, clerk, senior Vicar Chorall of the Cathedrall church of St. Asaph leaving then viii motherless children alive, died at his then dwelling house in Gwernglev'yd neere Bronhwylva,[1] and was buried upon Thursday following, viz. the 28th of September aforesaid anych his stalle or sitting-place, in the said Church, viz. the south or senior stalle from the entrance to his stalle upwards closse to the walle and wooden worke there.[2]

He is probably the man who is thus described in *Ancient and Modern Denbigh*:—

"John Ireland cler, sonne and heire to John Ireland, gouldsmith, was admitted and sworne burgess and paid for his admittance wyne."[3]

In the same book we find that "Jeffrey Ireland was a Corvisor of Denbigh in the year 1598."

"John Ireland, the sonne of S^r^ Harry Ireland, clc. deceased was sworne burgess, the iij of Januarie 1604."

"Jonas Ireland glover xx^th^ Julie 1605."

"M. Harry Ireland, Preacher in Devintie, sworn burgess upon the new Chartre, paieing for his admyttance iij^s^ 26 Sept. 1625."

The three following wills are those of Shrewsbury Irelands.

David Ireland of Salop, Mercer. (19 Jenkyn).

7th January 1529.

. . . . I bequethe my soul to our Ladye S^t^ Mary and to all the hole Company in Heaven . . . and my bodye to be buryed

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[1] Bronhwylva at S. Asaph is best known as the home of Felicia Hemans, the poetess. Her family moved there from Gwrych in 1809.

[2] *Y Cwtta Cyfarwydd*, p. 116.

[3] Page 355.

in the Chappell of our Ladye within Saynt Chadde Churche of Salop . . . . that all the priestes and ministers of the foure Parish Churches within the towne[1] be at my Dirige . . . I will that Saint Gregoris trentall of three Masses be saide for my sowle the day of my buryall. I will that the iij orders of fryers[2] be at my buryall and they to have for their labours for my sowle, my wife's sowles and all Xten sowles as my executors and overseers can best agree and devise after the laudable costome of their places.

Item. I will there be at my funerall 23 tapers off wyt wax a peace and two prichetts[3] and two of the said tapers to the hyth aulter and two to Saint Michales aulter and on to every aulter in the Churche, and the rest after the disposision of my executors.

Item. to the Cathedrall Churche of Lychfelde xij^{d}.

. . . . to Saint Mary howse in Coventre xij^{d}.[4]

. . . . to the hyght alter in Saint Chadde Church of Salop for forgotten tythes xl^{s}.

. . . . to the reparacion of the said Churche xl^{s}.

. . . . I bequethe 100 pounde to purchase lande for a Chauntre for ever to be kept at Saint Thomas aulter in Saint Chaddes Churche for my soule, my wyffs soules and all Christian soules or ells the on hundred pound to be bestowed by my executors and overseers to bye ornaments for the saide Churche of Saint Chad or ellis otherwise by the oversighte of the worshipfull men of the parish.

I will that the iij freers houses shall have x^{s} to be equally divided amongst them by my executors, to singe a trentall for my soule and all xten soules the day of my anniversary or within 12 days after.

Item. I will that my executors do by lands to the value of iij^{s} and iiij^{d} by yere to be given to the Vicars of Saint Chadds to singe yerely on obbit for my sowle, my wife's soules and all xten soules.

. . . . to pore people the day of my buriall in mony 5^{l}.

. . . . 24 gowns to 24 pore men and wymen that beren the light at my burriall.

. . . . I bequethe my house in Mardewall that Thomas

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[1] S. Mary, S. Chad, S. Alkmund, and S. Juliana.

[2] Augustinians, Dominican, and Franciscan Friars.

[3] Candlesticks.

[4] S. Mary's Hall in Coventry belonged to the Gild of S. Catherine it was built 1413. (Camden's *Brit*, vol. ii., p. 345).

Clerke[1] dwells in to my sonne Richard Irelande for the terme of his lyfe and I bequeathe 9 shillings of these rents of two tenements and a garden that I purchased of Roger Doon, Draper, to my sonne William Ierland and his heirs of his body lawfully begotten and for lache of yeres of the forsaid William that then the same rent shall remayne to my sonne Richard Ireland for terme of his lyfe and after his deceas that the said rent do remayne to my yeres betwixt me and Katerin my wife lawfully begotten.

Item. I will that all my purchased land in Bedston, Jay and Erkjay for fau'te of heres lawfully begotten betwixt my wife Katerin and me remain to my eres of my body lawfully begotten of Anne late my wife according as the tenour of the purchasinge thereof doth expresse and if all they dye without heirs of theire bodies lawfully begotten that then the saide lande remayne to find a Chauntre at Saint Thomas Aulter in Saint Chadde Church in Salop for ever or ells a free schole for ever and it to be sett and ordered by the Dean of the said Churche and Churchwardens by the advise of the Heedman of the same parishe for to pray for my soule my wifs soules and all xten soules.

Item. I bequeathe to Ane my dowghter . . . 50li.
„ to El'in my dowghter . . . 50li.
„ to Robart my sonne . . . 50li.
„ to Christiane my dowghter . . . 50li.
„ to Johane my dowghter . . . 50li.
„ to Elizabeth my dowghter . . . 50li.
„ to Margaret my base dowghter 6li 13s 4d to her mariage and if she dye onmaryed then to be distributed in dedis of charitie.

Item. I will that Katherine my wyfe have the orderinge of all my childerne of her begotten with their bequests till they be 16 yeres of age or maried; and if any of them be deceased afore that time then that part to be distributed, halfe to my wife Katerine for theire findinge and the other halfe to be distributed among all my childrene by my wife Katerin then being alyve and my sonne William, and if any of them do marry contrary to the mynde of their mother and my overseers of this my last will that there shall be minished of their parte so being marryed xli and that to be distributed in dedis of charite for my sowle helthe and all xten soules.

[1] Probably son of Richard Clarke of Shrewsbur . See *Her. Visit.*, p. 114.

Allso it is my will that if Katerin my wife be married after my desseas that then she shall give in plate or money 4li to everyon of my chyldarne betwixt hir and me begotten and to William Ierland my sonne and if she lyve soole and not marry then all my plate to be at her disposicion and mynde.

Item. I bequeth to the reparacion of Monwords Bridge[1] 5 marks.

Item. I bequeathe to Atchams brige to the reparacion thereof 40s. Item. to the reparacion of tyren'is[2] Brige 13s 4d.

Item to the reparacion of Horton is lane 40s.

Item to Jayne Mansell my servant 20s. Item to Anne Couper my servant 13s 4d. Item to Raffe Coton my prentis so he serve his mestres truly during his yeres 40s. Item to Richard Clerk[3] scollar at his first massinginge 20s. Item I bequethe to John Wtfelld 40s. Item to John ap David lloit of Arahulleth so that he will trewly occupye wythe my wife as his father and I have done aforetyme 40s.

Item to *Robert ap Ruc (?) of Oswestr 50s, also to my brothers doughter 40s.*

Also I bequethe to the Company of Mercers of Salop to the reparacion of their lands 40s. Item I bequethe to Thomas Irelande my sonne xli in money or plate and my skarlet gowne and my second velvet doublet.

Item I bequethe to Thomas Bromley[4] my best velvet doublet and 10li in money.

Item I bequeathe to Richard Owen[5] my sattene dublyt, my gowne bynyd with sarsnyt and 10li of money.

Item to William Ierland my sone my damasse doublet withe new flewes of damaske to the same and my krymson gowne and xli of money that he do gether and pay to my executrix my good detts in London upon my executrix coste and expensis.

Item I bequethe to Robert Irland my sonne my puke gowne with the cape. Item I bequethe to Edward Hosier[6] a dublett of damasse or ells of wryht satten. Item to Elizabethe his doughter 20s.

Item to Margery my doughter a cup worth 10li.

Item. I will that at the last payment of Thomas Abraham

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[1] Montford's Bridge.

[2] Probably the bridge over the Tern.

[3] Son to Thomas Clarke, before mentioned.

[4] Lord High Chancellor of England in 1581, second son of George Bromley of Hodnet, Sheriff in 1522.

[5] His son-in-law,

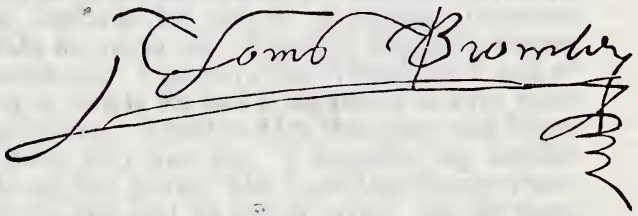
[6] Ditto.

is bille, he be allowed x^{li} to be devided amongs his childerne for his payne and labour in taking the personage of my void[1] and for his kyndnesse at all tymes.

I will that Master Humfre Thomas[2] Warden of Battall be pardoned the one haulfe as he owes me in my boke, and to him I bequethe my old dublet of velvet.

Item I bequeth to Adam Coly a gowne after my wife's descression and x^{s} of money to pray for me.

Item I bequeath to Jhon Owen my godsonne the sonne of Richard Owen x^{s}. Allso all my lands and rents not bequethed I give and bequethe to Katerine my wife during her life. The residue of all my goods not bequeathed my will fulfillyd and my debts payd I bequeth to Katerine my wife the which Katerine I make and ordeine my sole executrix and that this my last will and testament be performyed and fullfilled I ordone and make



and Thomas Ireland my sonne overseers.

Thes being wittnesse Mast^{r} Humfrey Thomas, Warden of the battell feld, Sir Adam Coly preest, Richard Owen mercer and William Ireland my sonne.

Proved at Lambeth, 17 May, 1530.

Will of Wyllam Irelande of Salop Mercer.

2nd Aprill, 1545. (8 Alenger).

I bequeathe my soul to Almighty God . . . . and my bodie to be buried in the Churchyarde of S. Chades Churche . . . . I bequethe to poor and ympotent persons and poore householders of the towne of Salopp to be distributed among them

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[1] ?

[2] In 17 Hen. VIII. "Humfri Thomas," Bachelor of Degrees, was in possession of Battlefield. On 18 Oct., 1535, he was dead, for "Sir John Hussey, Chaplain, admitted to ye mastership or custody of ye Collegiate Church of Battelfield, vacant by ye death of Sir Humphrey Thomas, last master, on ye presentation of Ma^{r} Richd. Hussey, Esq." (See Shrop. Archæo. *Trans.*, 2nd Series, vol. i., pp. 336 and 311).

in bredd or money this dere yere fourtie poundes. I bequethe Katheryne my daughter fourtie poundes . . . David my sonne fourtie poundes . . . Edward my sonne fourtie poundes, Jone my daughter fourtie poundes, and if any of them decease afore they come to lawfull age . . . I will that her parte shall remayne amongst them that lyve equally divided, and if all of them decease or be married it shall be at the disposition of the executors for the poore.

I bequethe to my godson William Irelande[1] fortie shillings to my godson William Warringe[2] twelve shillinges.

To my goddaughter Johanne Bowen twelve shillinges, To Anne Luter[3] my goddaughter twentie shillinges . . . . to my cosin John[4] twoo sommes which be my godsonnes tenne shillinges a yere.

To Richard Owen my [——] so that he do his dutie in helping the performance of this my last will 6^{li} 13^{s} 4^{d}.

To Willm Harntye 20^{s}. To Elizabeth Whitacres 30^{s} to Elizabeth Farnes 10^{s} to Katherine Alen 20^{s} to Raufe Htythe (?) 20^{s} to William Richarde 13^{s} and 4^{d}. I pardone Lawrence Phillipps the debt he oweth me. I pardon Elizabeth Prowes the debt she oweth me. I pardon John Whithfelde 6^{s} and 8^{d} that my brother is suretie for and I bequeathe to hym more mynt work daye gowne. I pardon Alen Mannynge and Roger Mannyge the debts they owe me. I bequethe my brother Robert Irelande my best gowne. Also I will that George Owen be recompensed for the gold he lost of myne. All my tenements and takings I give to my wyfe during her lyf and after her decease to Davyd my sonne and to his heires.

My will is that if my wyfe departe and dwell out of my newe house[5] that she shall put no person to dwell in hit but my brother Thomas if it shall be hys pleasure shall dwell in hit paing the rent to the Mercers untill David my sonne come to hys age or be marryed.

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[1] Probably his brother Thomas's son.

[2] Second son of Adam Waringe of Shrewsbury. "Merchante of the Staple of Calice;" made freeman 1541-2. Warden Mercers' Co. 1544-5.

[3] Roger Luter, son of William Luter, mercer, dec., was made freeman in 1535. He with Robert Ireland, the elder, did "detayne the Inventory of the Churche goodes of St Chaddes" 20 Dec., 1571. (Shrop. Archæo. *Trans.*, vol. x., p. 407).

[4] One John Irelande was bur. at Norbury, 1 Nov., 1578.

[5] Probably the beautiful half-timbered house known as "Ireland's Mansion," in High Street, Shrewsbury.

It is my will also that Thomas my brother have the custody of David my sonne . . . . Also I will that my brother Roberte Irelande have the custodye of Edward my sonne and all his portions bequeathed to hym. I bequeathe my debts to my wyfe and Thomas Irelande and Roberte Irelande my brothers I make executors. I bequeth to Elizabeth Browne 4^{s} to my sister Ales Owen my violet gowne and to Hugh Becoll[1] my bybull . . .

Witnesses Jo'in Irelande, Rauff Hecthe and Anne his wife Richard Owen and Anne Richardson.

Proved, London, 14 May, 1546, P.C.C.

Will of Thomas Irelande of Shrewesbury.

4 Sept., 1554. (10 More).

. . . I will and bequethe to Robert Ireland my sonne my best bedd with all things thereto belonging, concerning that one bedd, my best carpet, my best table cloth and table, my standing cupp of silver and gilt with the cover of the same, my payer of best saltes without cover of silver and gilt, my best goblet with (?) of silver and gilt, my best dozen of spoones being thereunto the dosen, provided that the saide bequest unto my said sonne shall not be delivered unto hym nor unto any other in his name during my wyefe lyfe his mother, but after her decease I will he shall have the saide Legacie immediately, and if it fortune my sonne Robert dye before he may enjoy my said Legacie unto hym bequeathed then I will my next heir shall have all that . . . . and I also will that the residue of my goodes moveable and immoveable be equally devyded unto two partes and the parte being the moite thereof I give and bequeathe unto my welbeloved wief, and thother moite or parte thereof I will and bequeathe to be equally divided amongst the rest of my children that shall be lyving at the time of my decease, except my eldest sonne and heyre, my daughter and one such other of my daughters that shall hereafter fortune to marry and take to husband the sonne and heyre apparent or sonne and heyre of Thomas Scryven of Froddesley in the County of Salop Esq. and moreover I will that all my lands and te'nts in Shrewesbury, Bedston, Jaye,

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[1] Richard Becoll, son to Hugh Becoll of Salop, gent., was apprenticed for seven years in 1580. He was made a freeman of the Mercers Co. "Son of Hughe Bewcoll dec. as a prentys 1583."

Beckjay[1], Stutte, Bechcote,[2] Layntwarden,[3] Pulley,[4] Codecote,[5] Shippenfeld, Monkmoor and Adbrighton,[6] Adbright Hussey

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[1] These lands were, as we have seen, bought by his father, David Ireland. Bedston was a Domesday Manor, of which Jay and Beckjay were members. It was held under the Fitzalans, Barons of Clun, by Elias de Jay and his heirs 1135-1349. (Eyton, vol. xi., 302-306).

[2] "1543, 35 Hen. VIII., after the dissolution of the Monasteries, Betchcott was sold by the King to Thomas Ireland. 1718, a descendant of Thomas Ireland sold it to Thomas Powys, Esq."

The Inquis. Hen. VIII. on articles belonging to Betchcott Chapel "found to be in the keeping of Richard Wyldynge of the Spout Farm," were—"1 Chalice, a pair of Vestments, a Cross, 2 Coverings, 1 Pix, 1 Missal, 1 Little Bell called a Saint's Bell, 1 broken glass, 2 Table Cloths for the Altar and certain pieces of broken glass." (*Bye-Gones*, Aug. 17, 1892). Hen. II. granted "Becchecota" to the Canons of Haghmond, they built a Chapel there, and Bishop Peche confirmed to Haghmond Abbey (before 1182-3) "the Chapel of Bechcote." It belonged to the Abbey until the Dissolution. The Minister's Accounts 1541-2 contain the following amongst the assets of the dissolved monastery, Bechcote:—

Rents of Tenants at will	0	0	6
Ferm of a Messuage and Land	2	19	4
Ferm of the Chapel	1	0	0
	£3	19	10

(See Eyton, vol. vi., p. 244-249).

[3] Leintwardine was a Shropshire manor temp. Domesday; it now belongs to Co. Hereford. It was granted by the Conqueror to Ralph de Mortimer. Hugh de Mortimer, 1181-5, gave the Church and Mill of "Lyntwardyn to Wigmore Abbey." In 1534-5 the Abbot of Wigmore's receipts were—

Yearly rents and ferms of Lentwarden	...	16	0	3
Ferm and Mills of	do. ...	3	3	4
Corn tithes and hay tithes	do. ...	0	12	6
		£19	16	1

Probably Thomas Ireland bought Leintwardine at the Dissolution.

[4] Pulley was partly belonging to Ralph de Mortimer. (See Eyton, vol. vi., pp. 206-213). Probably it had become a possession of the Monasteries.

[5] Cothercote was granted to Haghmond 1204. Assets of the Abbot in 1541-2 were £4 3s. 3d. (See Eyton, vol. vi., pp. 249, 261-265).

[6] "Adbrighton Monachorum" was probably given to Shrewsbury Abbey before the Conquest. The Ministers' Accounts 1541-2 give the Abbot's receipts £12 15s. 4d. (Eyton, vol. x., 107-110).

Harestote,[1] Aston Abbott,[2] Dervald and elsewhere within the Countie of Salopp.

Yf it fortune me to decease before my seaven youngest children shalbe marred or otherwise preferred shalbe devyded into three partes, one of which shall immediately after my decease descende and come unto my heyre according to the course of inheritance, and I will another or seconde part thereof unto my wife for the terme of her liefe together also my dwelling in Shrewesbury in the name of her dower and jointer, and I will the rest being the therde part of the saide landes and ten'ts to Joane my wyef and to her executors and assignes during the space of foure yeres next after my decease to the only purpose and entent that my said wief her executors and assignes shall have the (—) and profytt of the said thirde parte to be equally devyded and employed unto and for the advancement and preferment of all my children that shall be lyvinge after my decease except my sonne Robert and Lucy my daughter and one of the other of my daughters that shall hereafter fortune to marry and take to husbande the sonne and heire apparant or sonne and heyre of the said Thomas Scryven.

Also I will that after the saide terme of foure yeres shall be fully completyd and endyd, that then my wief shall have the moiete of all my landes and ten'ts during her liefe, and the other moiete to be to my heires.

And I will furthermore that if my moveable goodes will not amounte to performe and fulfyll my will hereafter mentioned concerning my seaven younger children, then I wyll that there shall be levyed and taken out of the rente and rentes of my hole Landes yerely by my saide Wiefe and by her executors and assignes, the sum of twentye pounds until that my former Legacie and the moietie . . . shall be full worthe seven hundred pounde to the use and preferment of my seven younger children, that is to wyt, to Elizabeth Ireland £100, to Catherine Ireland £100, to George Ireland £100, to Wyllam Irelande £100, to Margery Ireland £100, to Susan Irelande £100, to Sara

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[1] In 1310, Abbot William of Shrewsbury Abbey paid £40 for the purchase of land in Albrighton Husee and Harlescote to John Huse, who held of the Earl of Arundel. The Ministers' Accounts 1541-2 make the Abbey's farms in Harlescote to be £3 12s. 8d. In 1535-6 the College of Battlefield was receiving 20s. yearly for the ferm of the Chapel of Albrighton Hussey. (See Eyton, vol. x., 80-85).

[2] Probably Aston under Wrekin, given to Shrewsbury Abbey by the Empress Maud 1141. It appears in the Ministers' Accounts at the Dissolution.

Ireland £100 . . . . They shall sell for two hundred poundes worth of woode, so to be sold then for the furnyshing of seven hundred poundes . . . . and the rest be furnished out of the rentes and revenues of my landes . . . Provided also that Johane my wiefe shall have my farm in the East forgatt during the yeres yet to come in the Indenture of the Lease . . . then I will immediately after my decease the saide farm shall remayne to George Irelande my sonne for all the terme of yeres which shall be then to come therein. Provided further that it shall please Almighty God to call any of my said seven children from this transitory life before they shall come to the age of twenty four yeres or else be marred then I will that hys or their partes be equally distributed amongst the survivors, also if any of them shall live as a thief, whoremonger or common drunkard then their part shall be distributed to the others . . . Also I bequeathe to Willyam Irelande my sonne all that farm and the landes and the rents belonging in Stutfeld and Shippenfeld in the several tenures of Joane Vaughan and Elynor Adams widowes to have to hym for the terme of fourscore yeres . . .

I give and bequeath to David Irelande[1] fourtie shillinge.

I appointe the righte Hon^ble^ Sir Thomas Bromley Knight Lord Chief Justice of England, Johan my wiefe, my brother Robert Ireland, my sonne Robert Irelande and Robert Aley my executors.

Witnesses, William Poyner[2] gent., George Lee, Richard Prynn, William Gough, Richard Hochekys and dyvers others.

Proved London, 17th Oct. 1554.

The death of Thomas Ireland is thus described in the Taylor MSS., Shrewsbury :—" November[3] the 10th, 1554, was buried Master Thomas Ireland of Salop, Mercer, a right protestant[4] and dylygent favourer of the woorde of God, and was also a verteous and charitable man unto the poore, zealous and carefull in prouydinge for them, and yf he had lyvyd he wold have brought hys mynd to pas in the same for hys perpetuall memorye."

[1] His nephew.

[2] Of Shrewsbury, second son of Thomas Poyner of Bestow. He mar. Jane, d. of Thomas Scryven of Froddesley, Sheriff in 1497.

[3] This month must be wrong, as we see his Will was proved 17 Oct., 1554.

[4] He signed Inventory Church Goods of S. Chad's, Shrewsbury, 6 Ed. VI.

Ireland £200. . . . That shall sell his two hundred pounds worth of woods so to be sold [illegible] for the [illegible] of money hereafter mentioned. . . . And the rest [illegible] out of the [illegible] of my lands . . . . [illegible] also that [illegible] during the [illegible] of the lease . . . . [illegible] I will [illegible] the lands [illegible] all the [illegible] which shall be [illegible] children [illegible] age of twenty four years [illegible] . . . . [illegible] William Ireland my [illegible] all that [illegible] and the lands and [illegible] John Vaughan and [illegible] for the [illegible] of fourteen years . . . .

I give and bequeath to [illegible] Ireland [illegible]

I appoint the right [illegible] Sir Thomas [illegible] Knight, [illegible] Ireland [illegible] my [illegible] Robert Ireland my [illegible] and [illegible] my executors.

Witnesses: William [illegible], George Lee, Richard [illegible], William Gough, Richard [illegible] and others.

Proved London, 17th Jan. 1574.

The death of Thomas Ireland is thus described in the Taylor MSS., Shrewsbury:—"November the 16th, 1574, was buried Master Thomas Ireland of Salop, Mercer, a right godly and diligent hearer of the words of God, and was also a virtuous and charitable man unto the poor, [illegible] and careful in providing for them, and yf he had lyved he would have brought hymself to passe the same by perpetuall [illegible]

1 His residue.

2 [illegible]

3 [illegible]

4 [illegible]

His Protestantism advanced his worldly prosperity, for his property mainly consisted of Abbey lands, as we have seen. They were not, however, bestowed upon him, for we find that on the 31st Oct., 35 Hen. VIII. (1543), when the Manor of Albrighton "inter alia" was granted to him, he paid £292 6s. 9d. for it. It was conveyed by licence of alienation, dated 18 June, 1544, to "Thomas Jennens[1] and Edward Hosier,[2] to the use of himself the feoffee, and Johanna his wife, and his heirs, by the name of omnia illa lesur' terras et tenementa in Longehays vocat' Priory Hill, Malbrych, Bradweys and Bright Abricke, in the parish of St. Mary of Salop, and also the tithe and demesne of Abrighton, lately holden by the Dean and Chapter of St. Mary."[3]

Albrighton continued in the male line of the Irelands until 1792. When Thomas Pershall Ireland died, he left it to his illegitimate daughter Mary. On her death it escheated to the Crown, but was soon after granted to the nephew of Thomas Pershall Ireland, who in 1804 sold it to the Rev. Inigo William Jones.[4]

The Inquisition p.m. of Thomas Irelond, Co. Salop, was taken at Wenloke, 1 and 2 Phillip and Mary. It states that his eldest son and heir Robert was aged 18 on the death of his father, and that the said Robert in the lifetime of his father, on 29 August, took to wife Elizabeth.[5]

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[1] Thomas Jennins mar. Elianora, daughter and heir of Sir Rowland Jay, of Jay, Co. Salop, sister to Katherine, wife of David Ireland. Thomas Jennins's daughter Jane was the mother of Sir Thomas Bromley.

[2] Brother-in-law of Thomas Ireland.

[3] *Shrop. Arch. Trans.*, 2nd Series, vol. i., pp. 98–101.

[4] It passed to the Sparrows by purchase, and now belongs to William Arthur Brown Sparrow, Esq.

[5] Inquis. p.m. 1 and 2 Philip and Mary, secunda pars., No. 83 (Pub. Rec. Office). The only other Inquis. p.m. of the Irelands is one dated June 27, 37 Hen. VIII., No. 69 (1535) of "Anthony Ireland" of Uppingham, Co. Rutland. It mentions Edward, his brother and heir, aged 26.

The Protestation [illegible] his worldly prosperity, for his property mainly consisted of Abbey lands, as we learn [illegible]. They were not, however, [illegible] upon him, for we find him on the [illegible], 31 Hen. VIII (1540), when the [illegible] granted to him, he paid [illegible] for it. It was [illegible] dated [illegible] June, [illegible], to "Thomas Jennings and Edward [illegible] to the use of himself the said [illegible] his wife, and his heirs by the name of [illegible] in [illegible] Abbey Hill, [illegible] in the parish of St. Mary of [illegible], and that the [illegible] by the Dean and Chapter of St. [illegible]."

[illegible] in the [illegible] until [illegible]. When Thomas [illegible] died, he left it to his [illegible] daughter Mary. [illegible] granted to the [illegible] of Thomas [illegible], who in 180[illegible] sold it to the Rev. [illegible] William [illegible].

The [illegible] of Thomas [illegible] [illegible] and Mary. It states that [illegible] on the death of [illegible] the said Thomas in the lifetime of his father, on 24 August, [illegible].

[illegible]

[illegible] of Thomas [illegible].

[illegible], pp. [illegible].

[illegible] it passed to [illegible] and now belongs to [illegible].

[illegible] and Mary [illegible] The only other [illegible] Hen. VIII, [illegible] of [illegible] his father and heir, aged [illegible].

IRELAND.

ARMS: Harl. 1396, fo. 169b.—*Gules, 6 fleurs-de-lis, 3, 2, and 1 arg.*

CREST: *A dove arg. holding in the beak an olive branch, vert.* (From Alan de Columbers).

Johannes de Hibernia
Came over with William the Conqueror. Settled at the Hutt or Haut, in the Parish of Childwall, Co. Lancaster. He built the chancel of Hale Church in 1081, and was bur. there in 1088.[1]

[2]Sir . . . . Irelande

[2] . . . . Irlande

[2] . . . . Irlande

John or Roger Irelande
temp. Rich. I., 1190. Roger de Hibernia settled "all his lands of Leverpool on the marriage of his son Robert with Beatrix de Daresbury." Some say he built the Castle of Liverpool.[3]

Sir Robert Irelande of Hutt, Kt., 1215,[4] mar. 1206. "In the raigne of King John in great favoure and countenance wyth him, as appeareth diuerse wayes." — Beatrix, d. of William Daresbury, of Daresbury.[5]

Sir John Irelande of Hutt, Kt. — Matilda (or Margaret) sole d. and heir of Sir John Hesketh of Rufford, Co. Lancaster. Arms: *Arg. on a bend sable 3 garbs or.*

Alan de Columbers. Arms: *Gules, a bend or.* — Cecilie de Walton, d. and heir of Richard de Mida Walton, grandson of Gilbert de Walton, Lord of Hale and Halewood. In 1221, Hen. III. took Hale, but restored

a *b*

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1 Recorded in Notes collected by "Thomas Chalenor of Bridge Street, Chester, Student of the laws of Arms and Armory, 1592," leaf 6.
"Lichefeldie qui istam Cantavian
pmo . . . dni John de Irlond militi
rd . . . dni millimo octogecio primo." "These words I found written in a peece of glasse in Hale Chappell wyndowe." (See *Hale Hall*, with Notes on the family of Ireland Blackburne, privately printed, 1881).

2 Three Irlandes in succession, of whom little is known. (Ibid).

3 *Views of the Old Halls of Lancashire and Cheshire*, Phillips, pub. 1893. One "John de Hibernia" was living in Shrewsbury, and admitted on the Roll of Burgesses 1209. (See Joseph Morris's Pedigrees, Shrewsbury).

4 Arms of Ireland of Hutt were, *az. a chev. arg. inter 3 fleurs-de-lis or.* (Ibid).

5 *Hale Hall*, with Notes.

a | *b* | it to Richard de Mida in 1222, and in 1227, granted it to him and his heirs.

Adam de Ireland of Hutt, and jure ux. of Hale. Built new aisle to Hale Church and restored windows 1308.[1] ∓ Avena, d. of Sir Robert Holland, who possessed the Hale jure ux. Cicely Columbers 1308. Avena had Hale by gift of her father. Arms: *Az. a lion ramp. guard, betw. 8 fleurs-de-lis arg.*

John de Hibernia of Hutt and Hale, and jure ux of Bebbington and Worrall. Charter in Rolls Office confirms to John, son of Adam de Irland the whole Town of Hale. 5 April, 1339. ∓ Agatha, d. of Stephen Merton, Lord of Bebbington and Worrall 1347, heir to her brother David Merton. Arms: *Az. 3 bends arg.*

David de Ireland of Hutt, Hale, and Bebbington. ∓ Margery, d. of Sir William Stanley of Hooton and Stourton, Cheshire, Kt. Arms: *Arg. on a bend az. 3 bucks heads cabossed or.*

Richard Irelande of Oswestry, Co. Salop.[2] ∓

Robert Ireland ∓

Sir John de Irelande bur. Hale Church 1401.[3] ∓ Margaret, d. of Halsall, Lord of Halsall, in Lancashire. Arms: *Arg. 3 serpents heads erased az.*

Richard Ireland of Oswestry, had a lease of the Heath Mill, Par. Ruyton-xi-Towns, from the Abbey of Haughmond 1390. ∓

Roger Ireland ∓ Cecilia

William Irelande[4] ∓ Ellyn, d. and heir of Sir John Handford, and relict of Sir John Stanley. Arms: *Arg. a star sable.* — *a*

Thomas Ireland of Lydiate, jure ux. Par. Halsall, Lancashire, 1401. ∓ Agnes Blakeborne d. and sole heir of Robert de Blakeborne of Lydiate. — *b* — *c*

1 April 18, 1321, William de Walton releases and for ever quit-claims to Adam de Hibernia and Robert his son, the Vill of Hale, dated Lyverpool, Eve of Easter Sunday, 14 Edw. I. *Hale Hall* with Notes.

2 See Joseph Morris's Pedigrees, Shrewsbury. One Walter de Ireland was Attorney in Edmund, Earl of Arundel's demise of land "in the Bosc of Haghmon, called Blakewellemor," to the Abbey, May 16, 1314. Walter de Ireland soon after quit-claims all his own interest whether as Bailiff or Tenant in the premises. On August 12, 1316, Edmund, Earl of Arundel, advises Walter de Yrlond, Warden of his wood of Upton, that he has granted a parcel thereof in form to Haghmon Abbey. (Eyton, vol vii, pp. 296, 297).

3 1350 A.D., Sir John de Ireland's plea to a "Qui Warranti" on the right of wreckage, and right "to the Royal fish taken in the same sea." *Hale Hall* with Notes.

4 1424, A.D. 2 Hen. VI., William Ireland of the Hale leases land called Portershache. Witness, Thomas Ireland. (Ibid).

a | b | c

John Irelande of Hale Church, bur. Hale, d. 2 May, 1462. = Margery, d. of Sir William Atherton of Atherton.

Lawrence Ireland of Lydiate, d. 1458. ↓ now extinct.

Wyllyam Ireland = Ellyne, d. of Sir Wyllyam Molleneux, of Sephton.
Arms: *Az. a cross Moline, quarter pierced or.*

Sir John Irelande m. soon after Battle of Bosworth, d. 1526. = Margerye, d. of Sir John Stanley, brother of Thomas, Lord Stanley, 1st Earl of Derby, creat. 1485.

Thomas Irelande d. 1589. = Margaret, d. of Sir Richard Boulde, Lord of Boulde.
Arms: *Arg a griffin segreant, sa.*

George Ireland of Hutt and Hale, etc. ↓

Thomas Ireland, founder of Irelands of Bewsey and Warrington.

Sir Gilbert Ireland, d. 1675.[1] = Margaret, d. and heir of Thomas Ireland of Bewsey.

Anna, d. of Ralph Brereton. Arms: *Arg. 2 bars sable.* = Richard Ireland, Receiver for the King of the Lordships of Oswestry and Shrawardine, in Marchiâ Walliæ, on the death of John Fitz Alan, 13th Earl of Arundel, 1434. (Originalia 13 Hen. VI., rot. 17). "Aug. 1, 1468, John, Abbot of Haughmond, demises Hethe mill to Richard Ireland of Oswestry gent. at a rental of 10s. for 41 years, or of 13s. for 20 years."[3] = Tibota, d. of Roger Salter of Oswestry. Arms: *Gu. 10 Billets, four, three, two, and one or. within a bordure engr. az. bezantée*

Thomas Ireland

Randulph =

Randulph[2] m. & d.s.p.

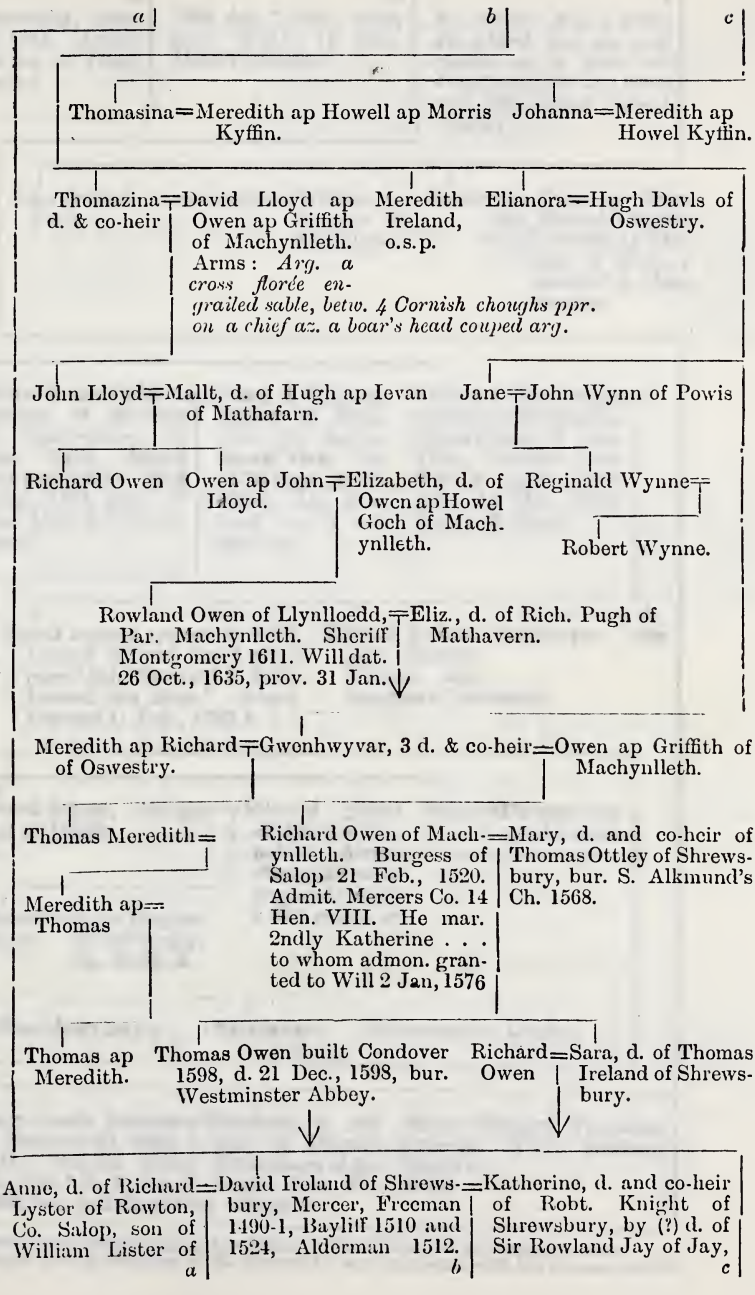
Robert Ireland of Oswestry, Burgess. = Margaret, d. of John ap Meredith of Rhiwaedog (des. from Owen Gwynedd). — a

Thomas Ireland Burgess of Oswestry. = Mabella, d. of Howel ap Morus Kyffin ap Ieuan Gethin of Glascoed. Arms: *Per fesse sa. and arg. a lion ramp. counterchanged* — b, c

[1] From his sister and heir Margaret, the Hale and the Hutt passed to the families of Aspinwall and Green, and now belongs to John Ireland Blackburne, Esq., to whom we are indebted for the Pedigree of the Irelands of Hutt and Hale.

[2] Randall Ireland was defendant in Star Chamber Suit 29 Hen. VIII., about collection tithes and Easter Offerings in Church of Oswestry.

[3] Eyton, vol. x., p. 116.


a
b
c
Thomasina=Meredith ap Howell ap Morris Kyffin.
Johanna=Meredith ap Howel Kyffin.
Thomazina d. & co-heir
David Lloyd ap Owen ap Griffith of Machynlleth. Arms: Arg. a cross florée engrailed sable, betw. 4 Cornish choughs ppr. on a chief az. a boar's head couped arg.
Meredith Ireland, o.s.p.
Elianora=Hugh Davis of Oswestry.
John Lloyd=Mallt, d. of Hugh ap Ievan of Mathafarn.
Jane=John Wynn of Powis
Richard Owen
Owen ap John Lloyd.
Elizabeth, d. of Owen ap Howel Goch of Machynlleth.
Reginald Wynne=
Robert Wynne.
Rowland Owen of Llynllocdd, Par. Machynlleth. Sheriff Montgomery 1611. Will dat. 26 Oct., 1635, prov. 31 Jan.
Eliz., d. of Rich. Pugh of Mathavern.
Meredith ap Richard of Oswestry.
Gwenhwyvar, 3 d. & co-heir
Owen ap Griffith of Machynlleth.
Thomas Meredith=
Meredith ap Thomas
Richard Owen of Machynlleth. Burgess of Salop 21 Feb., 1520. Admit. Mercers Co. 14 Hen. VIII. He mar. 2ndly Katherine . . . to whom admon. granted to Will 2 Jan, 1576
Mary, d. and co-heir of Thomas Ottley of Shrewsbury, bur. S. Alkmund's Ch. 1568.
Thomas ap Meredith.
Thomas Owen built Condover 1598, d. 21 Dec., 1598, bur. Westminster Abbey.
Richard Owen
Sara, d. of Thomas Ireland of Shrewsbury.
Anne, d. of Richard Lyster of Rowton, Co. Salop, son of William Lister of a
David Ireland of Shrewsbury, Mercer, Freeman 1490-1, Bayliff 1510 and 1524, Alderman 1512. b
Katherine, d. and co-heir of Robt. Knight of Shrewsbury, by (?) d. of Sir Rowland Jay of Jay, c

Shrewsbury, Burgess 1451. Arms: *On a fess sa. 3 mullets arg.*[1] *a*

Will dat. 7 Jan., 1529, prov. P.C.C. 17 May, 1530 (19 Jenkyn). *b*

Kt. Arms: *Arg. 3 Pales gu. a bord. engr. az. on a canton gu. a spur, the rowel upwards and strap or.*[1] She re-mar. Robert Dudley. *c*

John Ireland o.s.p.

Gwenhwyfar=William ap Jenkyn of Chirkland.

Jonet=(1) Evan ap Owen (des. Rhiryd Vlaidd).
=(2) Nicholas ap Thomas of Maes y newydd in Llandecwyn.

Thomas Ireland admit. freeman of Mercers Co. Shrewsbury, 19 Hen. VIII., Bailiff 1544 and 1550-1. Will 4 Sep., 1554, prov. 17 Oct., 1554, P.C.C. (10 More).

=Johan, d. William Oteley of Pichford, Co. Salop, Sheriff 1500. He d. 26 Sept., 1529. Arms: *Arg. on a bend az. 3 oat garbs or.*

William Ireland admit freeman of Mercers Co. Shrewsbury, 21 Hen. VIII., Warden 1539. Will 2 April, 1545, prov. 14 May, 1545, P.C.C. (8 Alen).

=. . .

David Ireland appren. to Robt. Ireland Mercer, for 7 years from 1554. "Servant to Robt. Ireland the elder." Admit. Mercers 11 Feb., 1563-4.

Edward Ireland (one Edward Ireland was Burgess of Oswestry).

Katheryne Jone

Richard Irland, Vicar of Welshpool.

Margery=Edward Hosier of Preston Gobalds. Arms: *Per bend sinister erm. and ermines a lion ramp. or.*

Anne=Thomas Harper of London

Elizabeth=John Draycot Hosier of Paynesley, Co. Stafford.

Ellin=John Bayly

Christiane=. . . Grosvenor of London.

Robert, made freeman of Mercers 31 Hen. VIII., Warden 1550 and 1561,[2] d. 6 Oct., *a* 1599, bur. in S. Chad's *b*

=Elizabeth, d. and heir of Thomas Pontesbury of Albright Lee, Co. Salop.

Maria=Richard Trentham of Co. Stafford, not mentioned in Wills. *c*

[2] There is some uncertainty as to which were the children of the respective wives. Brought certain evidences of the Mercers Co. in a Conference with the Drapers in 1567.

[illegible]

[illegible]

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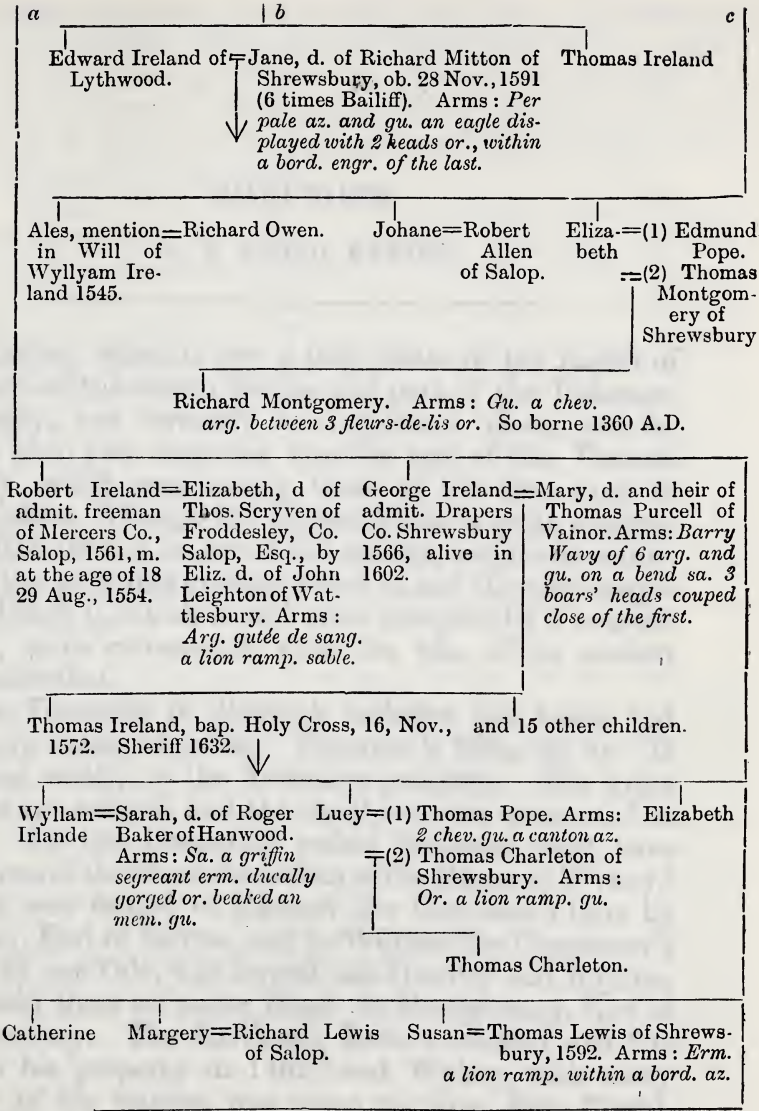
a
b
c
Edward Ireland of Lythwood.
Jane, d. of Richard Mitton of Shrewsbury, ob. 28 Nov., 1591 (6 times Bailiff). Arms: Per pale az. and gu. an eagle displayed with 2 heads or., within a bord. engr. of the last.
Thomas Ireland
Ales, mention in Will of Wyllyam Ireland 1545.
Richard Owen.
Johane
Robert Allen of Salop.
Elizabeth
(1) Edmund Pope.
(2) Thomas Montgomery of Shrewsbury
Richard Montgomery. Arms: Gu. a chev. arg. between 3 fleurs-de-lis or. So borne 1360 A.D.
Robert Ireland admit. freeman of Mercers Co., Salop, 1561, m. at the age of 18 29 Aug., 1554.
Elizabeth, d of Thos. Scryven of Froddesley, Co. Salop, Esq., by Eliz. d. of John Leighton of Wattlesbury. Arms: Arg. gutée de sang. a lion ramp. sable.
George Ireland admit. Drapers Co. Shrewsbury 1566, alive in 1602.
Mary, d. and heir of Thomas Purcell of Vainor. Arms: Barry Wavy of 6 arg. and gu. on a bend sa. 3 boars' heads couped close of the first.
Thomas Ireland, bap. Holy Cross, 16, Nov., 1572. Sheriff 1632.
and 15 other children.
Wyllam Irlande
Sarah, d. of Roger Baker of Hanwood. Arms: Sa. a griffin segreant erm. ducally gorged or. beaked an mem. gu.
Luey
(1) Thomas Pope. Arms: 2 chev. gu. a canton az.
(2) Thomas Charleton of Shrewsbury. Arms: Or. a lion ramp. gu.
Elizabeth
Thomas Charleton.
Catherine
Margery
Richard Lewis of Salop.
Susan
Thomas Lewis of Shrewsbury, 1592. Arms: Erm. a lion ramp. within a bord. az.
Sara
Richard Owen of Shrewsbury and of Whitley, Co. Salop, admit Drapers Co. 1572-3, built "Owen's Mansion," in the Square, Shrewsbury, 1592, d. 25 Oct., 1594, bur. S. Chad's

SHELVOCK.

By R. LLOYD KENYON.

Shelvock, which is now a farm house in the Parish of Ruyton-of-the-eleven-Towns and part of the Tedsmore property, was formerly an important place, and for more than two centuries was the seat of the Thornes family, which was among those of the first rank in Shropshire. Though the present house is quite modern, the date 1606 is on one of the stables, and its situation, with the park-like grounds round it, and the picturesque pool below it, which is still often occupied by a vagrant swan, quite corresponds with the idea of its ancient consideration.

The Township of Shelvock includes the house and only one cottage besides. The area is 259a. 3r. 4p. It belongs wholly to the Tedsmore property. The great tithes are merged, and the small ones are commuted at £16. At the Domesday period Shelvock must have been one of the three Berewicks of the Manor of Wykey,[1] which was owned in Edward the Confessor's time by Edwin, Earl of Mercia, and in William the Conqueror's time by one Odo, who owned also Hordley and Ruyton, but held them all under Roger de Montgomery, Earl of Shrewsbury. The Earl's son Robert rebelled and forfeited his property in 1102,[2] and Wykey, with many other of his manors, was given to Alan Fitz Flaald, hereditary Sheriff of Shropshire, whose son William Fitz Alan gave Ruyton and Wykey to John le Strange

[1] Eyton xi., 23. [2] Eyton vii., 206, 220.

about the year 1155, to hold under him. Le Strange again, about 1175,[1] gave Shelvock and all its appurtenances to one William fitz Walter and his heirs to hold of himself and his heirs free of all services except that of giving to Le Strange annually some goat skin leggings and gilt spurs.

About 1270 Philip, Lord of Shelvock, was lord also of Shotatton, as appears from the following deed, of which a copy is at Tedsmore. Shotatton, Shelvock, and Eardiston were, doubtless, the three Berewicks of the Domesday Manor of Wykey, and if, as we may suppose, Philip derived his title to the property from William fitz Walter, it would seem that the manorial rights of the Manor of Wykey had passed to the latter as appurtenances of Shelvock, and that Shelvock had already in 1175 become the head of the Manor of Wykey. It is difficult to account otherwise for the Lord of Shelvock having the right to hold a Court and to amerce the township of Shotatton. The Deed is curious enough to be quoted.

Philip Lord of Sselvak confirms the gift and sale made by Roger de Caldecote the son of William de Wynelicote to Alan son of Roger de Ssetatton of a messuage and half virgate of land which Roger son of Aldithe formerly held in Ssetatton, and a messuage and nook of land which Richard le Knicht held there, and the half messuage which Ithell held, and the nook of land which Roger son of Juliana formerly held in the same, for 13 marks paid by Alan to Philip. He also grants to Alan and his heirs free pasture within and without the sown fields of Ssettatton, except in his wood during mast time; and releases them from being summoned or attached to his Court for any offence "but if they offend concerning me or my heirs they shall make amends by the consideration of four lawful men to be chosen on each part;" "and if the township of Ssetatton shall be amerced by me or my heirs or assigns, neither the aforesaid Alan nor his heirs or assigns shall make any contribution for it unless for their own offence and that in the manner prescribed." And for 1^{d} in silver per annum Alan and his heirs are released from all suits of court reliefs heriots and aids of all

[1] Eyton x., 72.

kinds. Witnesses Sir John de Lee, Thomas his son, Hugh the son of Philip, Stephen de Felton, Roger Impias and others.

This Deed is undated, but Philip de Schelfac, Sir John de Lee, and Hugh son of Philip, occur as witnesses to another deed[1] executed between 1269 and 1276, so that the present deed may be presumed to be about the same date.

About 1301[2] the le Stranges sold to their suzerain Edmund Fitz Alan, Earl of Arundel, Ruyton with all its homages and fees, which would include all their rights over Wykey and Shelvock; but about 1325 we find John, Lord of Shelvock, giving to the Abbot of Haghmond a quit claim as to certain lands at Balderton,[3] so that Shelvock had not passed with Ruyton into the immediate possession of the Earl of Arundel, but was still held by an under-tenant, whom we may presume to have been a descendant of the William fitz Walter to whom it had been granted in 1175.

There is nothing to show whether the under-lords of Shelvock were disturbed in their possession in 1326, when their suzerain, the Earl of Arundel, forfeited his estates and was beheaded, or in 1331, when his son was restored to them, or in 1397, when his grandson again forfeited them; nor have we found any further mention of Shelvock till 1476, when Thomas Thornes is described as of that place.

The Thornes family had long been eminent in Shrewsbury. In 1356 Robert atto Thornes was one of four merchants summoned from Shrewsbury to confer with the King in a Council of Merchants at Westminster.[4] In 1381 the Earl of Arundel interfered to appease some dissensions among the burgesses of Shrewsbury which had become very acute,[5] and induced them to commit

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[1] Eyton x., 116. [2] Eyton xi., 23.
[3] Eyton x., 73. [4] Rolls of Parliament II., 457a.
[5] Owen and Blakeway i., 169.

the government of the town to a committee of 12 persons, one of whom was Robert of Thornes, son of Robert atte Thornes above mentioned; and thus the Thornes family came into connection with the Lord of the Manor of Ruyton and the suzerain of Shelvock. This Robert was four times Bailiff of Shrewsbury, 1388 to 1409. His son Thomas[1] was also Bailiff in 1432, 1436, and 1440, and in 1444 became one of the first Aldermen of the Borough. Thomas Thornes, grandson of the Alderman, is described[2] as of Shelvock in 1476, and presumably bought it. He married a daughter of Sir Roger Corbet of Morton.

Roger Thornes, son of Thomas, was called the "Wise Thornes of Shrewsbury, for that both town and country repaired to him for advice." Though owner of Shelvock, he retained his family connection with Shrewsbury, and seems to have lived principally in the town, where he had a house in the Raven Street, just opposite the School Lane. He was six times Bailiff. In 1506 he was associated with Richard Lyster, who, like himself, was both Bailiff of Shrewsbury and county gentleman, being the owner of Rowton, in negotiating some business in dispute between the Borough and the Abbot of Shrewsbury, and in 1525, when he was senior bailiff, he went on another deputation with Mr. Lyster to Bewdley, to arrange before the Court of the Marches sitting there a dispute between the towns of Shrewsbury and Worcester. He married a daughter of Sir Roger Kynaston. He died in 1531, and was buried in St. Mary's Church.[3] After him was a somewhat rapid succession to the property of Shelvock.

John Thornes, his son, married Elizabeth Astley of Patishull.[4]

Jeffery Thornes, son of John, married first Jane Kynaston of Shardon, by whom he had a daughter

[1] Owen and Blakeway i., 212.
[2] Morris's MS. in possession of Mr. Peele. Heralds' Visitation.
[3] Owen and Blakeway, i., 279, 302; ii., 398.
[4] Heralds' Visitation.

Jane, baptised at Middle, 13 Feb., 1545, and other children; and secondly, Anne Fowler of Staffordshire.[1] His will was proved at Lichfield in 1552, and he was succeeded by his son by his second wife,

Nicholas Thornes, who married Margaret, daughter of Walter Wrotesley of Staffordshire. He was succeeded in 1592 by his son

Richard Thornes, who in 1599 bought a third part of the Manor of Ruyton from George Younge, Esquire,[2] the heir, no doubt, of Thomas Younge, Archbishop of York, who had bought the manor in 1567 from the Earl of Arundel and others. Richard Thornes was Sheriff of Shropshire in 1610,[3] but for the first half of the year only, being succeeded during the latter half of the year as sheriff by Richard Mytton of Halston, whose sister Elizabeth he had married. The initials $\frac{\text{R. T.}}{\text{E. T.}}$ 1606 are on a stable still standing at Shelvock, with enormously thick walls, and are those of this Richard Thornes and his wife Elizabeth Mytton.

Francis Thornes, son of the Sheriff, married Beatrice, eldest daughter of Sir Andrew Corbet of Moreton Corbet, on the 12th Dec., 1625, at Moreton Corbet,[4] he being then 19 and she 15 years of age.

By a deed[5] of 16 Dec., 1638, he settled "the Lordship or Manor of Shelvock and all houses and lands in the township of Shelvock, the Heath Mill in the Township of Knockin, and two meadows at Maesbrook," on himself in tail, subject to a jointure for his wife. When the civil war broke out he took an active part for the King.[6] On the 8th August, 1642, he subscribed in Shrewsbury a strong declaration of loyalty, and he afterwards signed "The Ingagement and Resolution of the

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[1] Middle Register and Heralds' Visitation.
[2] Duke's *Shropshire*, 315.
[3] *Sheriffs of Shropshire*, A.D. 1610.
[4] Moreton Corbet Register.
[5] At Tedsmore.
[6] Owen and Blakeway, i., 417, 455, 482.

principall gentlemen of the County of Salop, for raising and maintaining Forces,[1] at their own charge, for the defence of his Majestie King Charles I., their country, and more particularly the fortunes, persons, and estates of the subscribers undernamed." The forces to be raised were "one entire regiment of dragoneers," and were to be ready, with the money, on the 20th December, 1643, and to be under the command of Sir Vincent Corbet, his brother-in-law. Francis Thornes was one of the many county gentlemen captured when Shrewsbury was taken on Feb. 22nd, 1644-5, by the Parliamentary forces under the command of his first cousin, Thomas Mytton of Halston, and he had to pay a composition of £720 for his estate. In 1653 he executed a settlement[2] upon the marriage of his son, comprising "the Manor of Shelvock, the Manor House in Shelvock in which Francis Thornes dwells, the water corn mill called Heath Mill in Knockin, Melverley Farm, 2 closes in Wykie in or near a place called Bagamore, all in the possession of Francis Thornes, land covered with water in Great Ness called Ingerley (?) Pool, a farm in Webscott, 4 messuages in Melverley, the Black Birches in Smethcot in the Parish of Middle, Startlewood in Hopton, a messuage in Edgerley, a messuage called the Gorsty Leasowes in Ruyton in the occupation of Richard Taylor, 2 messuages in Ness, and 13 in Shotatton, in the tenures of William Hanmer, John Woods, Thomas Dovaston, John Wofie (?), Richard Morton, John Peevor, Cornelius Peevor, Edward Perkins, Edward Foster, John Croxon, Daniel Griffiths, Edward Griffiths, and Edward Dyos; a messuage in Earston, otherwise Yarston, in possession of Richard Jones, and two messuages in Hopton."

After the Restoration Francis Thornes was one of the Commissioners appointed under an Act of 1661 for administering oaths of allegiance and supremacy to all

[1] Duke's *Shropshire*, lxxxi.
[2] Which is now at Tedsmore.

office holders in Shrewsbury, and for removing from office all disaffected persons.

The following inscription to the memory of him and his wife is on the north wall of the chancel of Ruyton Church :—

Here lieth the body of Francis Thornes, Esq^re^, Justice of the Peace and quorum for this County, one of his Majesty's Deputy-Lieutenants, a loyall subject, A cordial friend, A patron of the poor, who departed this life the 2^nd^ day of July Anno Dom. 1678, aged 72 years.

Here lieth interred the body of Beatrice Thornes, wife of Fran^s^ Thornes of Shelvock, Esq^re^, and the eldest daughter of Sir Andrew Corbett of Morton-Corbett, who deceased upon the 30^th^ day of December Anno Dom. 1664, ætatis suæ 55."

Thomas Thornes, son of Francis, was the last Thornes owner of Shelvock. He was baptised at Moreton Corbet, 26 Sept., 1630, and married in 1653 Elinor, daughter of Jonathan Langley of the Abbey, Shrewsbury, who was sheriff of the county in 1689. Secondly Catherine Littleton, daughter of Sir William Courteen, Kt., of London, and widow of Sir Edward Littleton of Pillaton, Co. Stafford, Bart., a zealous royalist.[1] To her there is the following inscription on a stone which was formerly[2] in the chancel of Ruyton Church, but is now lying outside the east end :—

Here lieth the body of Lady Catherine Littleton, wife of Thomas Thornes of Shelvock, Esq^re^, in the County of Salop, who departed this life the 12th day of December Anno Dmni 1674.

Thirdly Anne, who married after his death George Bold. Thomas Thornes sold Webscott, in Middle, to his brother-in-law Thomas Price.[3] He died without issue. His tombstone was formerly under the altar at Ruyton, but is now, with that to his second wife, lying outside the east end of the Church. It is inscribed :—

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[1] Burke's *Peerage*, tit. Hatherton, where, however, her name is given as Hester.

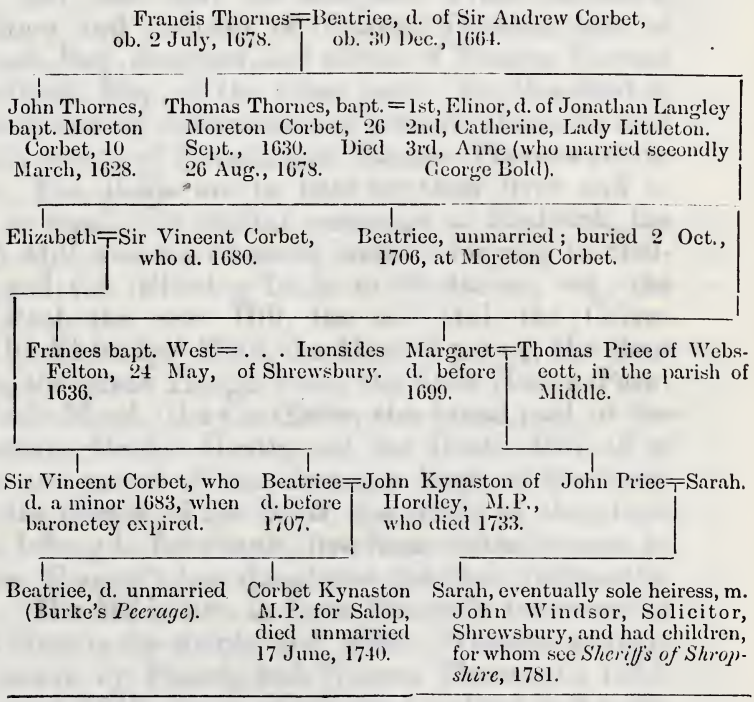
[2] Shropshire Records by D. Parkes, Brit. Mus. Add. MSS. 21,022

[3] Gough's *Hist. of Middle*, 120.

Here lyes the body of Thomas Thornes of Shelvock, Esq., Son and Heire of Francis Thornes, Esq., who departed this life August 26th, 1678.

He, therefore, survived his father less than two months.[1]

The pedigree of the Thornes family down to Francis Thornes is published in the Heralds' Visitation of Shropshire by the Harleian Society. The subsequent pedigree will be best understood from the following table, compiled principally out of the deeds at Tedsmore.



[1] In the Deed of 7 Aug., 1707, two messuages in Shotatton are described as formerly held by Roger Thornes, and now by Timothy Sides and Francis Plymley; and the deed of 20 Dec., 1748, mentions a chief rent of 1d. issuing out of lands within the Manor of Shelvock, belonging to Edward Thornes. In 1779 this land had passed from him to Thomas Reynolds. Who these Thornes were does not appear. Edward Thornes of Ruyton married Elizabeth Bill of Felton, at Felton, 23 June, 1711.

On Thomas Thornes's death his widow retained possession of Shelvock, and married George Bold, but their right to the property was evidently disputed by the family, for in 1699 a deed of family settlement was executed, dated 30 Oct., between George Bold of Shelvock, gent., and Anne, his wife, of the one part, and Dame Elizabeth Corbett of Shrewsbury, widow, Beatrice Thornes of Shrewsbury, spinster, Frances Ironsides of Shrewsbury, widow, and John Price of Shrewsbury, gent., son and heir of Margaret Price, deceased, daughters and co-heirs of Francis Thornes, late of Shelvock, Esq., deceased, and sisters of Thomas Thornes of Shelvock, Esq., of the other part. By this deed it is agreed that all differences and lawsuits about the land late the estate of Francis and Thomas Thornes are to cease. The Bolds are to hold for their lives and to keep in repair the capital messuage of Shelvock, the Heath Mill, and the demesne lands belonging to Shelvock, and the following lands in Shotatton, viz., the Turf Pool, the new Hill, the old Hill, the Calves Croft by Elsbridge[1] Gate, the Marly Furlong, Meridens Crofts, the great Hodge Park, the little Hodge Park, the Poole Marsh, the Coatfields, the broad pool or the ox pasture, Hanly[2] Heath, and the Heath Mill, all of which are parcel of the demesne lands of Shelvock. After the deaths of the Bolds, the whole of the above are to belong in fee simple, free from incumbrances, to Francis Thornes's four daughters and their representatives. The Bolds are to have Broome's tenement in Great Ness in fee simple, and £500. Various conveyances made by Francis and Thomas Thornes in 1673 1676, and 1678 are to stand good and not to be disputed, by which the inheritance of certain lands in Shotatton, Yarston, and Hopton, and the life estate in the house and demesne of Shelvock were conveyed to

[1] Called Hellbridge in 1707 deed.

[2] Hantley, alias Antley Heath, in 1707 deed.

Anne Bold, and life interests in other lands to some of the others.

The following lands in Shotatton, viz., the Craniums, the great Foxholes, the little Foxholes, the Gentlewomen's close, a little parcel of land in possession of Anne Griffiths, and the Butts in Shotatton field in the possession of John Griffiths and John Wheelock, are to be delivered into the possession of George Bold, he paying £10 to Beatrix Thornes for the said Butts or Furlongs, which are her proper inheritance; and she is also to sell to him the cottage in Shotatton called Bellamie's tenement.

The Bolds are to do no waste in certain tenements at Melverley of the value of £50 per annum, which will come to the representatives of Francis Thornes's daughters after the death of Anne Bold.

Anne Bold, therefore, and her second husband, George Bold, had possession of Shelvock from 1678; and they were still alive in 1707,[1] but had let it to some undertenants.

Lady Corbet settled her fourth part of the Shelvock estate on her grandson Corbet Kynaston, and in 1702 her sisters Beatrice Thornes and Frances Ironsides transferred their shares (subject to their life interests) to her, and in 1707 the remaining fourth was bought from John Price by Corbet Kynaston's trustees for £400. Another deed of family arrangement was executed on 7 Aug., 1707, conveying the Manor and Manor House of Shelvock and its demesnes to Corbet Kynaston, and other pieces of land in "Earsdiston alias Earston," Bagamore, Hopton, Ruiton, and Melverley, to the Bolds and others in fee. In addition to the demesne lands enumerated in the settlement of 1699, the following are by this deed agreed to be part of the demesne lands, and conveyed accordingly to the Bolds for life, with remainder to Corbet Kynaston in fee, viz.:—"The

[1] Deed of 7 Aug., 1707, Frances Ironsides and others to Corbet Kynaston; at Tedsmore.

Hall Meadow, the Spring, Rogers's Leasow, Rogers's Meadow, the Marshes alias Wigmarshes, Earson's or Eason's Meadow, Stockin Meadow, Edmonds Moor, two White Leasows, the great Park Fields, the three crofts adjoining to the great Park fields, the Spring Meadow, the Hopyard, the little Park field, the Stanneley, the Rock Hill, the Connery and Connery Meadow, and all other lands being now in the occupation of George Bold, his under-tenants or assigns, and in the townships of Shelvock and Shotatton."

Corbet Kynaston, therefore, became sole owner of Shelvock on the death of the Bolds some time between 1707 and 1738, when he executed a deed barring his estate tail in a part of the property. He was not of age in 1707. In 1713 he was a candidate to represent Shrewsbury in Parliament,[1] but was defeated by Thomas Jones and Edward Cressett, Esqs. He presented a petition against the return of the latter, which was dismissed by the House of Commons as frivolous, vexatious, and scandalous, but the next year, on the accession of George I., he was elected, together with Thomas Jones. In 1721 he was again returned at the head of the poll, with Richard Lyster, Esq., but though they sat in the House for two sessions, they were both unseated in 1723, inhabitants of the Abbey Foregate and of a number of other places having been improperly admitted to vote. From 1732 to 1735 he was involved in litigation with the Corporation of Shrewsbury,[2] in which he appears to have been unsuccessful. In 1733 his father died, and "by his death an estate of £8,000 per an. fell to his son Corbet Kynaston, Esq.,"[3] including the estates of Sundorne and Hordley, and in 1734 he was elected M.P. for Shropshire with Sir John Astley, and sat till his death in 1740. His step-mother[4] took up her resi-

[1] Hulbert's *History of Shrewsbury*, 193.
[2] Ib. 195.
[3] *Gent. Mag.* for 1733, p. 495.
[4] Owen and Blakeway i. 508.

dence in Shrewsbury on her husband's death, and lived there till her death in 1773. She is said to have been very frequently employed in carrying over to Flanders the contributions of the Shropshire Jacobites for the Court of St. Germains. Mr. Kynaston died unmarried the 17th June, 1740.[1] As the furniture at Shelvock then belonged to him,[2] he may have occasionally lived there, but he had also houses in Shrewsbury which he inhabited, and chambers in the Temple in London, and described himself in his will as "of Shrewsbury." He left all his real estates, including Sundorne and Shelvock, to

Andrew Corbet of Lee and Albright Hussey,[3] whose grandmother was sister to Edward Kynaston of Hordley, Corbet Kynaston's grandfather; but Andrew Corbet died 15 April, 1741, without issue, and was succeeded by his brother

John Corbet. Corbet Kynaston, however, had left debts amounting to between £70,000 and £80,000; suits were instituted by his creditors, and an Act of Parliament had to be obtained for selling his estates. Accordingly an arrangement was entered into, by deed dated 20 Dec., 1748,[2] between John Corbet, therein described as of Shrewsbury, and Charlton Leighton of Underdale, near Shrewsbury, and Anna Maria, his wife (who was a daughter of Richard Mytton of Halston, and was joint heiress at law with John Corbet to Corbet Kynaston). By this agreement John Corbet was to purchase the manor and lands of Acton Reynald at a certain price, and some houses in Shrewsbury, and to have Corbet Kynaston's furniture in Shrewsbury and in the Temple, and Anna Maria Leighton was to have the manor, house, and lands of Shelvock, and the furniture there, and the Heath Mill, the Heath Farm, and all the freehold tenements late of Corbet Kynaston in

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[1] *Gent. Mag.* x., 317.
[2] Deed of 20 Dec., 1748, at Tedsmore.
[3] Burke's *Landed Gentry*, Corbet of Sundorne.

Shelvock, Shotatton, Knockin, Melverley, Baggimore, and Ruyton.

Charlton Leighton and Anna Maria his wife, therefore, became owners of Shelvock in 1748. He was the eldest son of Sir Edward Leighton of Loton,[1] and succeeded to the baronetcy in 1756. Possibly he may have lived at Shelvock before his father's death, but in 1757 he let it for his own life to Richard Madocks, yeoman, and as Madocks is described in the deed as of Shelvock, he was, probably, already tenant of it before this time. In 1766 Sir Charlton gave up the property of Shelvock Manor, messuage, and farm, with the Gate House, Mill, and Dovehouse thereto belonging, and the Heath farm and land at Melverley, to his son

Charlton Leighton, to whom in 1773 he also transferred the Loton estate, subject to various charges. In or before 1774, however, Charlton Leighton sold the manor and estate of Shelvock to

William Mostyn Owen of Woodhouse, Esq., subject, of course, to the lease to Richard Madocks, who had been succeeded in the occupation of Shelvock before 1766 by his son Robert, described as "Gentleman" in a deed of 1777. Sir Charlton Leighton, for whose life they held it, died in 1780. Mr. Mostyn Owen represented Montgomeryshire in three Parliaments. He died in 1795, and was succeeded by his son

William Mostyn Owen, who about 1832 conveyed Shelvock to

Thomas Bulkeley-Owen, Esq., of Tedsmore, in exchange for lands at Haughton. Mr. Owen about 1858 pulled down the old house, and erected the present farm house, which is not exactly on the site of the old house, but a little to the east of it. The rats from the old house are said to have all emigrated to Pradoe. Some of the cellars of the old house still remain. The stable with the date 1606 has been already mentioned. When the house was pulled down a quantity of oak panelling was

[1] Burke's *Peerage*.

removed to Tedsmore, including an old English mantelpiece, now in the entrance hall there. Mr. Owen at one time travelled a great deal, and bought some very fine pictures abroad, two of which, the Holy Family by Murillo, and the Brazen Serpent by Rubens, were bought by the National Gallery in 1837 for £7,000. He died in April, 1867, and was succeeded by his son

Bulkeley Hatchett Bulkeley-Owen, who died on the 10th August, 1868, leaving a widow, but no children, and was succeeded by his brother

The Rev. T. M. Bulkeley-Owen, the present owner. He was Vicar of Welsh Hampton 1863-70, and was afterwards the means of starting the mission district in Castle Fields, Shrewsbury, and of getting the Church of All Saints built and endowed there. He has also built the Chapel called St. Chad's Church, at Haughton, in West Felton parish.

Mr. Thomas Lloyd is the occupier of Shelvock farm which includes the house and almost the whole township, and Mr. Thomas Bowdler of the cottage, which is the only other house in the Township of Shelvock. It is situated on the brook which separates the Townships of Shelvock and Eardiston, and is probably the Gate House mentioned in the Deed of 1766.

THE ABBOT OF SHREWSBURY VERSUS THE BURGESSES THEREOF IN THE MATTER OF THE MILLS.

By the Rev. C. H. DRINKWATER, M.A., Vicar of St. George's, Shrewsbury.

The following document affords a certain amount of insight into the dispute between the Abbot and the Burgesses, which dragged on its weary length for many scores of years; in fact, it was not without its influence upon their mutual dealings until the very eve of the Dissolution. Both parties were as obstinate as any legal fraternity could desire, and neither of them showed the least inclination to yield; for although the Abbot had, to all appearance, prescription of law and long continued usage in his favour, he could not persuade the Burgesses to see the matter in dispute with any other eyes than their own; in fact, the Burgesses were daily becoming more wealthy and more influential, and inclined on these accounts to dispute every restriction laid on their liberties. They were willing enough to yield to the Abbot in spirituals, but in temporals they would have greater freedom, and so they were not backward in taking any steps which tended to lessen his authority and to enhance their own.

Dr. Cunningham says:—

The connexion between the monasteries and the towns was close and not always friendly: to the Abbey the town often owed its origin; but, as they increased in wealth, the towns-

men wished to be freed from the control which the Abbot exercised; men were inclined to resent manorial claims and rights everywhere, and the monasteries exercised these rights in some prosperous places where the grievance was most deeply felt. (*Growth of English History and Commerce* Cambridge, 1890, page 197).

The situation of the convent outside the walls of the town served to make his exactions, sanctioned though they were by royal grant and subsequent royal confirmation, the less tolerable, and so, as they had no command of water power, for the mills on the Meole stream were indisputably his, they were forced to erect wind and horse mills, sufficiently capable not merely of grinding their own grists, but likewise of diverting any grist from coming to the Abbot's mills. And so the squabble went on year after year, and term after term. The Sheriff did not proceed to extremities, and no real advantage accrued to either side. The end of the dispute is not apparent. "What was done in Edward's Court upon the writ of Certiorari, to which the document appended is a return, does not appear. Possibly the parties settled the action out of court." This is what a competent legal authority, to whom I submitted the question, suggests, upon an examination of the particulars. It is not my own opinion, however. I incline to the supposition that the matter was never completely set at rest before the time came for the Dissolution of the convent on the 24th of January, A.D. 1539-40, almost four centuries and a half after its foundation.

The following extracts show the ground of the Abbot's action. He was merely standing upon his rights, which the Burgesses were not backward to infringe. This is his charter :—

Roger earl of Salopesberia to his son and heirs and barons and men and all his friends French and English greeting. Know ye that I have constructed a Monastery in the suburb of the city of Salopesberia in the church of the holy Apostles Peter and Paul which was anciently founded there: and have granted to the same all that street which is called Biforiete,

with three mills[1] and all the rents, and all the land between the Severn and the Meole and a little land called Aldefelth on the other side of the Meole.—O. and B. ii., 11.

Under the grant of their founder, confirmed by Henry I., the monks of Shrewsbury claimed the exclusive privilege of grinding all the corn used in the town and the sole right of possessing mills within its limits. But two centuries and successive royal charters had greatly raised the condition of the burgesses and prompted them to spurn the slavish badge of their former subjection. They had erected three horse mills and one wind mill within the walls of the town, and three horse mills in one of the suburbs, and they had also prevented persons who wished to have their corn ground at the Abbey mills from so doing. It could not be expected that the monks should tamely view so open a violation of their privileges. They appealed to the Courts of law, and there can be little doubt that the suit must have terminated in their favour, for the words of King Henry's charter to them are express. But the discreet ecclesiastics probably saw that the spirit of the age was too far advanced to make it prudent for them to press in its full vigour a monopoly so hateful, and that they might ultimately lose more than they should gain by exacting the utmost of their rights, and alienating the affections of their neighbours. They therefore acquiesced in the mediation of "common friends" and availed themselves of the present visit of Henry III. to Shrewsbury, to submit the dispute to him and his Council, consisting of Sir Walter de Merton, Master Godefrid Gyffard (Giffard) then Chancellor, Master John de Chyshull (Cheshull), Sir Robert Walerand (Waleraunt), Sir John de la Lynde, Sir Robert Anguyllon, and other great men, then being at Salop. The result was, that the mills in the suburbs were directed to be destroyed; those within the town

[1] There are still three mills in the Abbey parish on Meole Brook: the Burnt Mill, Trill or *Prince's* Mill, and the Abbey Mill, and these, in all probability, are those included in this Charter. They are now not situate on the natural course of the brook, but on an artificial cut or canal, an ancient work, it should seem, of some of the early Abbots. "About £11 3s. 9d. was the annual produce of these mills; a large sum when we consider that these mills were only three, and that the common rent of a mill in Domesday is seldom more than 10s., but then it must be considered that the earl had granted to his monks 'the *multure* of the whole city,' i.e., he interdicted the burgesses from grinding their corn anywhere else but at these mills; and this privilege might very well raise their value to the sum mentioned above."—O. and B. ii., 10.

to be maintained at the common expense of both parties, who were to divide the profits and expenses; two water mills were to be erected on the Severn, at the joint expense of the Abbey and town, with a saving of the fishery of the burgesses, who further covenant that they will not in future obstruct any person from repairing to the Abbey mills (from which it may be inferred that they had lately done so); and if the existing mills do not suffice for the wants of the town, others are to be set up at the common charge of the contending parties.—O. and B. i., 129, 130.

Placita coram Domino Rege apud Westmonasterium De termino Sancte Trinitatis anno regis Edwardi filii Regis Henrici trecesimo quinto [*ro* lxi° *Braba* . . . .][1] (*A.D. 1306, 7*). Dominus Rex mandavit Thesaurario et Camerario suis breve suum in hec verba.

Edwardus Dei gratia Rex Anglie Dominus Hibernie et Dux Aquitanie Thesaurario et Camerario suis salutem.

Quia quibusdam certis de causis certiorari volumus super tenore cujusdam composic'ois inter Abbatem et Conventum Sancti Petri Salop' et communitatem Burgensium ejusdem Ville Salop' de quibusdam molendinis in eadem Villa per predictos burgenses levatis coram celebris memorie domino Henrico quondam Rege Anglie patre nostro anno regni sui quinquagesimo primo (*1266, 7*) facte et irrotulate. Vobis mandamus quod scrutatis rotulis dicti patris nostri de anno predicto qui sunt in thesauraria nostrâ sub custodia vestrâ ut dicitur, et transcriptionem composic'ois predicte nobis sub sigillo dicti scaccarii nostri distincte et aperte sine dilatione mittatis et hoc breve Teste meipso apud Lanrecost[2] xix die

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[1] *ro' lxi° Brab* . . . This is my reading of some words at the end of the first line of the document. The parchment is deeply stained and broken, and some letters are irrecoverably lost. I can give no meaning to the characters as they stand. My legal friend suggests that they may be an *ear-mark* of the record, of which the exact signification is not now known. The sense is complete without them.

[2] *Lanrecost.*—The Abbey of Lanercost lies about 11 miles N.E. by E. of Carlisle, in the county of Cumberland. It was an Augustinian Priory, dedicated to St. M. Magdalene, and was founded in 1169 by Robert de Vallibus, Lord of Gilsland, and endowed by himself and others with a revenue valued at the Dissolution at £79 19s. It was frequently visited by Edward I, and partly destroyed by a conflagration in 1296. In 1311 Robert Bruce with his army lay here for three days. Ruins of the conventual Church cloisters and refectory still exist. The nave has been fitted up as the Parish Church.

Octobris anno regni nostri tricesimo quarto (*1305, 6*) Virtute cujus brevis prefatus Thesaurarius et Camerarius miserunt hoc recordum et processum in hec verba.

Placita de Assisis et juratis capta coram Domino Rege apud Salop' ad festum Sancti Bartholomei anno li° (*Aug. 24th, 1266, 7*). SALOP' Cum inter religiosos viros Abbatem et Conventum Sancti Petri Salop' ex una parte et Communitatem Burgensium Ville Salop' ex altera' motum esset placitum in Curia Domini Regis de quibusdam molendinis per predictos Burgenses in eadem Villa et extra levatis contra cartas et libertates predictorum Abbatis et Conventus a diversis Regibus et magnatibus Anglie eisdem concessas secundum quod in cartis ipsis plenius continetur Tandem mediantibus amicis communibus coram Domino Rege et ejus consilio videlicet Domino Waltero de Merton[1] magistro Godefrido Giffardo tunc Cancellario Domini Regis[2] et magistro Johanne Cheshull[3] dominis Roberto de

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[1] *Walter de Merton* was of the King's Council. He was an ecclesiastic. A notice in the *Cal. Rot. Pat.*, p. 36, 49 Hen. III. (1264, 5) runs thus :—"Rex amortizavit Waltero de Merton *familiari* suo ac Prebendario de Halywell in Eccl'ia Sancti Pauli London' in success' *Mazamillam* extra muros London' ex parte boreali vocat' La More." He was also later on Bishop of Rochester, and Lord Chancellor, and died in 1278 seized of the Manor of Kebeworth, in Co. Leicester, and lands in Middleton, in Co. Northampton, and much other land. He was the founder of Merton College, Oxford.

[2] *Godefridus Giffard* was also an ecclesiastic. He is styled in 1265, 6, 50 Hen. III., "Cancellarius Regis," and in 1267, 8, "Wigorn' Electus," in 1268, 9, "Ep'us Wigorn'."

[3] *Magister Joh. Cheshull.*—He was several times Chancellor. I find the following notices of him. He had the custody of the great seal on the 3rd day of December, 1263 (*Cal. Rot. Pat.*, 48° Hen. III., p. 35.) He delivered it up the year after, for we find this notice :—"Die mercurii prox' post festum Sancti Petri a Cathedra Rex recepit sigillum suum a Mag'ro Joh'ne dn Chishull Archidiacono London' apud Westm' in præsentia Hugonis le Dispenser Justiciar' Angliæ et al' de concilio R's et Rex eodem die dictum sigillum commisit Magistro Thomæ de Cantilupo custodiend' qui statim cum eo consignavit." (*Cal. Rot. Pat.* 49 Hen. III., p. 37).

It was again in his hands a few years later and again taken away, "Vicesimo nono die Julii Rex Sigillum suum recepit a Joh'ne de Chishull, Decano S. Pauli London et illud commisit Rico' de Midelton custodiend' qui brevia cum eodem consignavit." (Ibid, p. 42).

But in the same year, A.D. 1268, he was again made Chancellor and by a later patent "Thesaurarius Scaccarii Regis," and in A.D 1273 'Electus London'."

Waleraunt[1] et Johanne de la Lynde[2] Roberto Anguyllon[3] et aliis magnatibus tunc apud Salop' existentibus videlicet die Veneris proxima ante festum Sancti Michaelis anno domini millesimo ducentesimo sexagesimo septimo (*Sept. 23, 1267*) regni vero ejusdem Domini Regis li° terminatum est placitum predictum et contensiones et discordie occasione omni (abla)ta inter partes mote amicabiliter conquieverunt in hunc modum Videlicet cum dicti Burgenses tria molendina ad aquas et unum ad vent(*um intra*) muros dicte Ville et tria molendina ad equos in Suburbio ejusdem Ville levassent tam iidem Burgenses quam predicti Abbas et conventus pro se et successoribus suis concesserunt quod predicta tria molendina in dicto suburbio levata prosternantur et in perpetuo prostrata remanent Et quod predicta quatuor molendina infra muros predictos existencia in locis in quibus nunc sunt in perpetuum remaneant vel ad loca competenciora in eadem villa de communi consensu partium predictarum sumptibus communibus transferantur leventur et sustententur.

Ita quod ipsa quatuor molendina secundum statum in quo nunc sunt per duodecim probos et legales homines juratos neutri parti suspicatos fideliter apparcientur Et quod dictus Abbas et conventus medietatem dicti precii dictis burgensibus refundant si molendina ipsa ibidem debeant remanere Sin autem alibi de communi consensu de communibus sumptibus utriusque partis leventur et sustententur Omnes vero

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[1] *Robert de Waleraunt* occurs as early as 5 John (1203, 4) as holding various manors by service. The entry is not very plain. It runs thus:—"Waleran' fil' Roberti vic' et her' Horton maner—Hereford; Stikelawe servicia—Burthendum, medietat," the county of the latter being omitted. This may have been the father or grandfather. Very numerous notices are found of Rob. de Walerand in the *Cal. Rot. Pat.* and *Cal. Rot. Chart.* from 31st Hen. III. (1246, 7), to the 56th of the same King, and one in the first year of Edw. I. (1272, 3). His sire-name is spelled Waleraunde, Walerande, Walerand, Wallerand, and perhaps Walter, with or without the *de*, and he is styled Custos, Senescallus, Constabularius, and Secretarius Regis. He was seized of manors and estates in at least 14 counties.

[2] *John de la Lynde* appears in the 50th year of Hen. III. (1265, 6), as having with John Walerande the custody of the city and Tower of London, and in the 56th year of the same King as being entitled to a fair and free warren in Dorset and Lincoln.

[3] *Robert Anguyllon.*—Of him I find only one notice. He appears in 57 Hen. III. as "Conciliarius Regis," and in one place his name is given as "R. Aguillum."

exitus et proventus ipsorum quatuor molendinorum inter partes predictas equalibus porcionibus sine contenc'one dividantur et ipsa molendina et molendinarii et alii ministri in ipsis molendinis communi concensu consortietur sumptibus communibus utriusque partis sustententur Preterea de communi consilio et concentu (*sic*) tam predictorum Abbatis et Conventus quam predictorum burgensium provisum est et concessum quod duo molendina aquaria per aquam Sabryne currencia circa Villam Salop' una tum stangnis eorun(dem) sumptibus communibus construantur et sustententur ubi utraque pars ad commune commodum magis viderit expedire. Ita quod omnes exitus et proventus (ipsorum) molendinorum sicut et aliorum quatuor antedictorum equaliter inter partes dividantur Et quod nulla captura piscium occasione duorum (molendinorum) in aqua predicta exorteatur. Salvâ tamen predictis burgensibus et eorum heredibus antiquâ et consuetâ piscac'one sua. In omnibus autem predictis molendinis consortuantur molendinarius et alii ministri tot ex parte predictorum Abbatis et Conventus et eorum successorum quot ex parte burgensium et eorum heredum.Ita quod de communi concensu utriusque partis sustententur vel amoveantur et alii loco ipsorum sustituantur. Si vera omnia molendina predicta una cum molendinis predictorum Abbatis et Conventus in Suburbio constructis ad multuram dicte Ville non sufficiant et plura molendina de communi concensu levare voluerunt tunc tam de sumptibus quam emolumentis eorundem molendinorum per omnia fiat inter partes sicut de aliis molendinis communibus ut predictum est Nullus vero de hominibus Salop' impediet aliquem quominus ad communia molendina predicta et ad molendinum predictorum Abbatis et conventus in suburbio et alibi pro voluntate sua propria libere possit ire et ad ea molere. In cujus rei testimonium presenti scripto in modum cyrographi confecto partes alternatim sigilla sua apposuerunt.

Pretextu[1] cujus brevis et eciam composic'ois predicte postea ex parte Abbatis et Conventus Sancti Petri Salop' nunc accepit Rex quod communitas Burgensium predicte Ville composic'oem non servant in hoc videlicet quod ipsi Burgenses predicta quatuor molendina infra Villam predictam ob defectum sustentac'ois pro porc'one eosdem (conting)ente diruere permiserunt Et duodecim molendina alia absque assensu et Voluntate

[1] *Pretextu.*—This may stand for *pretextum* or *pretextus*, with the meaning of *purport*. The *case* is uncertain.

ipsorum Abbatis et conventus, auctoritate sua propria in eadem villa post modum contra formam composic'ois predicte.

Per quod preceptum fuit vice comiti quod non omitteret propter libertatem[1] ville Salop' quominus scire faceret communitati burgensium predictorum per duos liberos et legales de comitate sua quod essent coram Domino Rege a die Sancti Johannis Baptiste (*June 24*) in xv dies ubicunque &c. ad ostendendum siquid pro se haberent vel dicere scirent quare composic'oem predictam in omnibus suis articulis juxta formam concessionis predicte *inde*[2] in curia predicta ut predictam formam observare et tenere non debent. Et ulterius facturum et recepturum quod Rex consideraret in premissis. Ad quem diem predictus Abbas venit et similiter Burgensis communitatis Ville predicte per promissum communem sibi factam per attornatum suum ven*erunt*. Et predictus Abbas petit quod predicta quatuor molendina communia reficiantur et sustententur juxta composic'oem predictam et quod alia molendina per ipsos Burgenses contra eandem composic'oem postea levata, ut predictum est, prosternantur et ammoveantur et quod composic'o illa in suis articulis decenter teneatur et observetur. Et predicti Burgenses dicunt dicere[3] quod ipsi nichil contra composic'oem predictam fecerunt.

Dicunt enim quo ad predicta quatuor molendina communia quod unum eorum stat sufficienter reparatum et sustentatum et de aliis tribus duo illorum pro debilitate et defectu sustentac'ois diruta sunt et prostrata et tercium jamdiu est per infortunium *fuit* combustum &c. Que quidem molendina adhuc remanent infecta et inconstructa tam ob defectum predicti Abbatis quam ipsorum Burgensium eo quod idem Abbas eos nunquam monuerit nec allocutus fuit quod ipsi ad constructionem et reparac'oem molendinorum illorum pro porc'one ipsis inde contingente juxta composic'oem predictam contribuc'oem facerent. Unde dicunt quod defectus ille ipsis solummodo imputare non debet &c. Et quo ad alia molendina que prefatus Abbas dicit eos levasse contra composic'oem &c. Dicunt

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[1] *Libertatem.*—The historians of Shrewsbury say vol. i., p. 161—"Soon after (May 12th, 1328), follows a licence (from the young King, Edw. III.) to erect within the town 'ingenia per que blada et brasia molere possunt' (mills for corn and malt), thus releasing them from a slavish and galling dependence on the Abbot."

[2] *Inde.*—I am not sure of this word, either here or on page 349. It is indistinct. If it is really *inde*, it is perhaps used in some forensic sense.

[3] *Dicunt dicere.*—This may be a law phrase, but not good Latin.

quod ipsi nulla molendina contra composic'oem predictam levaverunt. Et de hoc ponunt se super patriam &c. Et predictus Abbas dicit, ut prius, quod predicti Burgenses predicta quatuor molendina ob defectum construcc'ois et reparac'ois &c. pro porc'one ipsis inde contingente diruere permiserunt et adhuc per eorum defectum et non per defectum ipsorum Abbatis et conventus diruta remanent et infecta &c. Et eciam duodecim molendina alia absque assensu et voluntate ipsorum Abbatis et conventus auctoritate sua propria in eadem Villa postmodum levaverunt contra formam composic'ois predicte. Et hoc petunt quod inquiratio per patriam &c. Et predicti Burgenses similiter &c. Ideo veniant inde[1] jurati coram Domino rege a die Sancti Michaelis (*Sept. 29*) intra dies ubicunque &c. Et quod nec &c. ad recognitionem &c. Quia tam &c. Postea a die. Sancti Hillarii (*Jan. 14 or Oct. 1*)[2] in xv dies anno regno Regis nunc octavo, venit predictus Abbas in propria persona et communitas Burgensium ville Salop' per attornatum suum Et similiter jurati veniunt *quum* dicunt super sacramentum suum quod tria molendina in querela predicti Abbatis contenta videlicet duo molendina ad equos et unum molendinum ventritium sunt diruta et prostrata ob defectum construct'cois et reparac'ois predictorum Burgensium communitatis predicte et non per defectum ipsorum Abbatis et Conventus. Et de quarto molendino dicunt quod omnino ignorant ubi situm fuit nec de eo unquam noticiam habuerunt Et dicunt quod tria predictorum molendinorum nunc sunt edificata per predictos Burgenses. Et inde proficium capiunt &c. Dicunt eciam quod predicti Burgenses levaverunt duodecim molendina in predicta Villa Salop' contra formam composic'ois predicte ad dampnum ipsius Abbatis trescentarum librarum.

Questio si predictus Abbas unquam eosdem Burgenses monuerit ad reparac'oem et sustentac'oem predictorum molendinorum faciendorum. Dicunt quod sepius eos monuerit *quoniam* hos omnino facere recusarunt.

Questio si predicti Burgenses unquam prefatos Abbatem et Conventum monuerunt ad reparac'oem et sustentac'oem predictorum molendinorum pro porc'one ipsis contingente. Dicunt quod non,

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[1] *Inde.*—I am not sure of this word, either here or on page 348. It is indistinct. If it is really *inde*, it is perhaps used in some forensic sense.

[2] *Sancti Hillarii.*—St. Hilary's day was Jan. 14. Hilary term began 23rd or 24th January, and ended on the 12th or 13th February

Questio cujusmodi molendina sunt illa xij molendina que prefati Burgenses levaverunt. Dicunt quod molendina cum rotis et similibus aliis instrumentis ad molendinum pertinentibus et que molere possunt viginti quarteria bladi nocte et die ut intelligunt Et quia compertum est per inquisic'oem predictam quod predicta tria molendina sunt diruta et prostrata ob defectum communitatis Burgensium predictorum Ville Salop'. Et quod predicti Burgenses levaverunt duodecim molendina in predicta Villa Salop' contra composic'oem predictam &c.

Ideo consideratum est quod predicta tria molendina reparentur et releventur sumptibus predictorum Burgensium. Et cum reparata et relevata fuerint, sumptibus utrorumque Abbatis et Conventus et predictorum Burgensium sustententur juxta formam composic'ois predicte Et quod predicta duodecim molendina per prefatos Burgenses levata sumptibus predictorum Burgensium per vicecomitem prosternantur &c. et prostrata permaneant &c. Et preceptum est vicecomiti quod non omitteret propter libertatem predictam quominus distraheret predictos Burgenses ad promissa facienda &c. Et quo ad *judicium* dampnorum &c. dies datus est partibus usque a die Pasche in tres septimanas ubicunque &c. quo ad audiendum judicium &c. Ad quem diem partes predicte venerunt per attornatos suos et datus est eis dies in crastino Sancti Johannis Baptiste ubicunque &c. quo ad judicium dampnorum &c.

Factum per recorda Anno nono H quinto coram eo[1]. (*? 9th H. V., 1421, 2*).

(Endorsements)

Recordum in Scaccario Inter Abbat Salop' et Vill 35 Edw. I.

Record of a Suit between the Abbot about the Abbey Mill 34 (?) Edw. I.

TRANSLATION.

Title, Record of Writ of Certiorari and return thereto

Pleas before the Lord the King at Westminster in the term of Holy Trinity, in the thirty-fifth year of King Edward, son of King Henry (1306, 7).

The Lord King has entrusted his writ to his Treasurer and Chamberlain in these words—

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[1] *Anno nono H(enrici) quinto.*—This cannot be reconciled with the other dates. Are we to ascribe this phrase to the error of the scribe, for the 9th year of Henry 5th (if quinto be intended for quinti) (1421, 2), is manifestly too late for the enrolment of this record, and would indicate the prosecution of this dispute for about 100 years.

Writ of Certiorari for the removal into the King's Bench of a certain Composition between the Abbot and Convent of Salop and the Town.

Edward by the grace of God, King of England, Lord of Ireland and Duke of Aquitaine.

To his Treasurer and Chamberlain greeting.

Whereas for various certain causes We will to be informed concerning the tenour of a certain composition between the Abbot and Convent of St. Peter at Salop and the commonalty of the Burgesses of the same town of Salop respecting certain Mills in the same Town, erected by the aforesaid burgesses within the time of the Lord Henry of illustrious memory, formerly King of England, our father, in the fifty-first year of his reign, made and enrolled:—

We command you that you examine the rolls of our said father of the year aforesaid which are in our Treasury, in your custody, as is said, that without delay ye send us a transcript of the aforesaid composition under the seal of our said Exchequer distinctly and openly and this Writ.

Witness ourselves at Lanrecost the nineteenth day of October in the thirty-fourth year of our reign.

Return of Writ and Composition. And of process (which was commanded).

By virtue of which Writ the aforesaid Treasurer and Chamberlain sent this Record and Process in these words—

Title of process or action.

Pleas of the Assizes and Juries held before the Lord the King at Salop on the festival of St. Bartholomew in the fifty-first year.

The Composition referred to.

Recitals.

Salop } Whereas between the religious men to wit } the Abbot and Convent of St. Peter at Salop of the one part and the Commonalty of the Burgesses of the Town of Salop of the other, an action has been instituted in the Court of the Lord the King, respecting certain mills erected by the said Burgesses in the same Town and without it, contrary to the Charters and liberties of the aforesaid Abbot and Convent, by divers Kings and chief men of England granted to them, according to that which in the charters themselves is more fully contained:

Nevertheless the aforesaid action was deter-

mined by the intervention of common friends before the Lord the King and his Council viz:

Lord Walter de Merton
Master Godfrey Giffard (then Chancellor of the Lord the King)
and Master John Cheshull
Lord Robert de Waleraunt

and John de la Lynde, Robert Anguyllon and other great men then dwelling at Salop, namely upon the Friday next before the Feast of St. Michael in the year of the same our Lord one thousand two hundred and sixty seven and the fifty first year of the reign of the same King the action was settled and all cause of contention and discord between the parties was done away (and) they moreover very amicably agreed in this manner, that is to say—

Whereas the said Burgesses had erected three water-mills and one wind-mill within the walls of the said town and three horse-mills in the suburb of the same town, as much the same Burgesses as the aforesaid Abbot and Convent for himself and his successors

The

have granted that the aforesaid three mills in the said suburb erected should be overthrown and should for ever remain overthrown. And that the aforesaid four mills existing within the aforesaid walls should for ever remain in the places in which they now are, or shall be transferred to places of greater convenience in the same town, by the common consent of the parties aforesaid, at the costs of the commonalty, and there erected and maintained. Also that the same four mills. according to the state in which they now are should be faithfully appraised by twelve good and lawful men sworn, by neither party suspected.

Composition.

And that the said Abbot and Convent shall reimburse the said Burgesses one half of the said price, if the same mills ought to remain in the same place. But if elsewhere, by common consent, they are to be erected and maintained at the common charges of both parties. All issues and profits of the same four mills to be nevertheless divided between the aforesaid parties

in equal portions without contention, and the mills themselves and millers and other servants in the same mills, to be by common consent chosen by lot, shall be maintained at the
(Concessit). common charges of each party. *Further* by the common advice and consent, as well of the aforesaid Abbot and Convent as of the aforesaid Burgesses, it was *provided* and granted that two water mills, on the Severn water, flowing around the town of Salop, together with the dams (*or pools*) of the same shall be at the common charges, constructed and maintained when either party shall see that it is conducive to the common advantage, and that all issues and profits of the same mills, as well as those of the other four before mentioned, shall be equally divided between the parties. And that no catch of fish shall arise by reason of the two mills in the aforesaid water, saving, nevertheless, to the aforesaid Burgesses and their heirs their ancient and accustomed fishery. In all the aforesaid mills, however, the miller and other servants, as much on the part of the said Abbot and Convent and other successors as on the part of the Burgesses and their heirs, be chosen by lot, so that by the common consent of each party they be maintained or removed and others substituted in their room. If, however, all the aforesaid mills together with the mills of the aforesaid Abbot and Convent constructed in the suburb, do not suffice for the multure of the said town, and they wish by common consent to erect more mills as much regarding the expenses as the emoluments of the same mills, everything to be done between the parties as with respect to the other common mills as before mentioned. Nevertheless, no man of Salop is to hinder anyone from going to the common mills aforesaid, and to the mills of the aforesaid Abbot and
End of the Com position. Convent in the suburb and elsewhere at his own proper free will and there milling.

In witness whereof to this present writing done in the manner of an Indenture the parties
(Sealed). alternately have affixed their Seals. Under pre-

(The King, i.e., Henry, anno regni li°).

text of which Writ and also of the aforesaid Composition thereafter set out the King has now heard on the part of the Abbot and Convent of St. Peter at Salop that the Commonalty of the Burgesses of the aforesaid town do not preserve the Composition in this respect, namely that they the Burgesses have permitted the aforesaid four mills within the aforesaid town to go to ruin for want of the repairs due to the same upon their part. And have also without the assent or will of them the Abbot and Convent upon their own authority in the same town afterwards erected twelve other mills against the form of the aforesaid Composition.

Count or Declaration.

Wherefore the Sheriff was commanded to omit not by reason of the liberty of the town of Salop to make known to the Commonalty of the aforesaid burgesses by means of two free and lawful men of his bailiwick that they should be present before the Lord the King on the day of St. John the Baptist within fifteen days wheresoever [he should be in England] to show cause for themselves if they have, or know of anything to say why the aforesaid Composition in all its articles according to the form of the grant aforesaid . . . in the Court aforesaid ought not to be observed and kept according to the form aforesaid. And further to do and receive what the King might adjudge in the premisses.

Scire facias quasi upon a recognisance.

(ubicunque fuerimus in Anglia).

On which day comes the Abbot and likewise the Burgesses of the Commonalty of the aforesaid town by (their mutual agreement made by) their attorney come. And the aforesaid Abbot claims that the aforesaid four common mills should be repaired and maintained according to the aforesaid Composition, and that the other mills by them the Burgesses afterwards contrary to the same Composition erected as aforesaid should be overthrown and removed and that that Composition in all its details should be fitly kept and observed. And the aforesaid Burgesses are heard to say that they have done nothing contrary to the aforesaid

Plea

and

Defence.

Issues

Composition. For they allege with respect to the aforesaid four common mills that one of them stands sufficiently repaired and maintained and concerning the other three that two of them are ruined and destroyed from neglect and defect of maintenance and the third is now sometime since burnt by mishap &c. which mills up to the present time remain imperfect and unrepaired as much from the neglect of the aforesaid Abbot as of themselves the Burgesses inasmuch as the same Abbot never warned nor requested them that they should on account of their share therein contingent to them according to the aforesaid Composition for the construction and repair of those mills make contribution. Therefore they say that neglect ought not to be imputed to them alone &c. And as to the other mills which the aforesaid Abbot says they have erected against the Composition &c. They say that they have erected no mills in contravention of the aforesaid Composition And thereof they place themselves upon their country &c.

thereon.

Defence

Issue

Replication.

And the aforesaid Abbot says as before that the aforesaid Burgesses permitted the said four mills to go to ruin from want of reconstruction and repair &c. according to the proportion therefrom contingent to them, and that until now through their neglect and not through the neglect of him the Abbot and Convent they remain ruined and useless &c. And also that they afterwards without the assent and will of him the Abbot and the Convent and upon their own authority in the same town erected twelve other mills against the form of the aforesaid Composition Whereof they claim that an inquest by the country &c. should be held. And the aforesaid Burgesses do likewise the same.

Issue joined.

Venire awarded.

Therefore let a jury come thereupon before the Lord the King on the day of St. Michael (Sept. 29) within fifteen days wheresoever [he shall be in England] who [neither are of kin to the said Abbot or Convent nor to the said Burgesses] to recognise [what the truth upon

the issues be] For [the same day is given to the parties aforesaid].

Postea.

Afterwards on the day of St. Hilary in fifteen days in the eighth year of the King that now is comes the aforesaid Abbot in his own person and the commonalty of the Burgesses of the town of Salop by their Attorney And likewise the jury came who upon their oath say that

Verdict for plaintiff the Abbot, &c.

three of the mills mentioned in the complaint of the aforesaid Abbot namely two horse mills and one wind mill are ruined and overturned on account of the neglect to rebuild and repair of the aforesaid Burgesses and commonalty aforesaid, and not through the omission of him the Abbot and the Convent. And as to the fourth mill they say that they are entirely ignorant where it was situate, nor have they ever had any knowledge concerning it. And they say that the three aforesaid mills are now built by the aforesaid Burgesses. And that they take the profits thereof, &c. They say also that the aforesaid Burgesses have erected twelve mills within the aforesaid town of Salop against the form of the Composition aforesaid to the damage of him the Abbot three hundred pounds. Asked whether the said Abbot ever gave them the Burgesses notice to cause the aforesaid mills to be repaired and maintained they say that he often gave them notice although they entirely deny that he did so. Asked whether the aforesaid Burgesses ever gave the aforesaid Abbot and Convent notice to repair and maintain the aforesaid mills in respect of their share therein they say that Not. Asked what kind of mills are those twelve mills which the aforesaid Burgesses have erected they say that they are mills with wheels and other similar engines for milling and that they can mill as they understand twenty quarters of corn by day and night.

Wherefore it being found by the aforesaid inquisition that the aforesaid three mills are ruined and overthrown owing to the neglect of the commonalty of the Burgesses aforesaid of the town of Salop. And that the aforesaid

Burgesses have erected twelve mills in the aforesaid town of Salop contrary to the Composition aforesaid, &c.

Therefore it is adjudged that the aforesaid three mills be reinstated and re-erected at the cost of the aforesaid Burgesses. And then when they shall have been so restored and re-erected they shall be at the cost of each of them the Abbot and Convent and the aforesaid Burgesses maintained according to the form of the aforesaid Composition. And that the aforesaid twelve mills by the before-mentioned Burgesses erected at the expense of the said Burgesses be by the Sheriff destroyed and shall remain destroyed, &c.

Judgment for Plaintiff save as to damages.

And the Sheriff is commanded that he omit not on account of the aforesaid liberty to distrain upon the said Burgesses to compel them to do their promises. And as to the verdict of damages, &c., a day is given to the parties until the day of Easter in three weeks wheresoever [the King shall then be in England] upon which for the assessment of verdict of damages [an inquest shall be had].

Trial.

On which day come the aforesaid parties by their attorneys and a day is given them on the morrow of St. John the Baptist wheresoever [the King shall then be in England] upon which for the assessment of a verdict of damages [an inquest shall be had].

Adjournment.

Done of record in the ninth year H. V. before him.

Recorded in the Exchequer. Between the Abbot of Salop and the town 35 Edw. I.

(Endorsements in later hands).

Record of a suit between the Abbot about the Abbey Mills 34 Edw. I.

ARCHITECTURAL HISTORY OF S. MARY'S CHURCH, SHREWSBURY.

Being a Lecture by The Venerable Archdeacon LLOYD, M.A.

Not long ago, in connection with the work of the Shropshire Archæological Society,[1] I had the opportunity of submitting for discussion the question, "*Which* of those now existing should be regarded as the first-founded Church in Shrewsbury." The conclusion which I drew was that such earliest foundation must have been the Church of S. Mary, and it was based mainly on these three grounds.

(1). That, out of the ten churches, the dates of the origin of eight of them could be approximately assigned.

(2). That, before the earliest possible date of the foundation of any of these eight, it was quite certain that Christianity (and therefore churches also) was established in Pengwern or Amwythig, the capital of Mid-Wales.

(3). That, of the two churches to which no date of foundation could be assigned, viz., those of S. Julian and S. Mary, the latter is indicated as the earlier, both by its central position within the boundary of the original town, and also from the fact that while some "islands," as I may call them, of S. Julian's, both in town and country, lie enclosed in the wider area of S. Mary's, no such isolated portions of S. Mary's are contained within S. Julian's parish. These conclusions were fortified by several other considerations which I will not deal with now, as being foreign to my present

[1] See *Transactions*, 2nd Series, vol. iv., pp. 7 to 13.

purpose; and I have merely referred to these three because they will receive some confirmation from what I am about to state concerning the history of the building of the Church which now exists as distinct from any building which must have in earlier times preceded it.

When I thus sought to provoke enquiry as to the first-founded church in Shrewsbury, I was obliged to lean to a great extent on conjectures based on circumstantial evidence where no direct evidence had survived; but, in dealing, as I propose to do in this paper, with the existing fabric of S. Mary's Church, I shall have the advantage of appealing to direct evidence, and calling witnesses whose honesty we cannot doubt, though their language may not be equally understood by all of us, and others may not put precisely the same value upon the testimony of each one of them that I do. The stones shall speak for themselves. In the case I shall submit to you I shall call only such witnesses as I can put into the box.

But I must begin, I fear, with one exception. One witness, the earliest is dead and buried, but has been seen by some of us, and I must ask my readers to take our evidence at second hand.

We began the restoration of S. Mary's Church in 1864 by dealing first with the nave and aisles. We took up the pavement of the whole floor, and having occasion to secure sundry, but not many, vaults and graves within the church, and to provide also channels for hot water pipes, and gas mains, a thorough investigation of the whole foundation became necessary. We discovered the entire ground plan of an earlier, and, I think beyond all doubt, a pre-Norman Church. It extended from the eastern face of the present tower 76 feet eastward, being 27 feet in width, and terminated in a semi-circular apse, projecting about 11 feet beyond the present nave. These foundations, which were continuous, were from 3 feet 6 inches to 4 feet thick, so far as the nave extended, while the walls of the apse

purpose; and I have merely referred to these three because they will receive some confirmation from what I am about to state concerning the history of the building of the Church which now exists as distinct from any building which must have at earlier times occupied it.

When I first sought to provoke enquiry as to the first Romanesque church in [illegible], I was obliged to lean to a great extent on conjectures based on circumstantial evidence always in direct evidence had not been [illegible] dealing; so I propose to do in this paper with the existing fabric of S. Mary's Church I shall have the advantage of appealing to direct evidence, and calling witnesses whose language we cannot doubt, though their language may not be equally understood by all of us, and others may not put precisely the same value upon the testimony of each one of them that I do. The stones shall speak for themselves. In the case I shall submit to you I shall call only such witnesses as I saw put into the box.

But I must begin, I say, with circumstantial evidence. The witness, this evidence is dead and buried, but has been seen by some of us and I [illegible] not any [illegible] to take our evidence de [illegible] bene.

We began the restoration of S. Mary's Church in 1864 by dealing first with the nave and aisles. We took up the pavement of the whole floor, and finding numerous [illegible] vaults, [illegible], and graves within the church, and to provide due channels for hot water pipes, and [illegible] a thorough investigation of the whole foundations became necessary. We discovered the entire ground plan of an earlier, and, I think beyond all doubt, a pre-Norman Church. It extended from the eastern [illegible] of the present tower [illegible] westward being 47 feet in width, and terminated in a semicircular apse, projecting about 17 feet beyond the present nave. These foundations, which were continuous, were [illegible] I think, [illegible] 4 feet thick, so [illegible] while the walls of the apse

were scarcely 3 feet thick. The pillars of the existing nave are laid upon these walls, which are sunk into the ground nearly 4 feet below the base of the pillars. Through these foundation walls we were obliged, in places, to cut channels for water or gas pipes, and were thus enabled to examine their construction. And it was very interesting to observe the evidence they gave of a yet more ancient church, being constructed of stones, most of which had obviously been used for building purposes at some yet earlier date ; just as we know, we may often see, in our own day, that when a church or dwelling is re-built, much of the old worn, though still sound, material is employed in the foundation of the new work. But this use of old material in the nave walls of this pre-Norman Church was not to be traced in the semi-circular apse to the east of it. From these facts I venture to offer to you certain conclusions to which I have been led. (1). That this apse belonged to a very ancient church of so-called Saxon date, which I will not dare to suggest in figures, but existing before 950, for a reason which I will give presently. This church must have been small, inasmuch as the chord of the apse is considerably less than the width of the nave foundations which I have just now described. Indeed, if the apse belonged to a church of the same date as those foundations, it would be out of the usual proportion, and unworthy of its dignity. And when we add the condition of its masonry constructed of stones not previously used, to the evident use of *old* materials in the nave, and then compare the small size of the apse with the considerable width of the nave, we are justified, I think, in concluding that the apse belonged to an earlier church than that of which the nave foundations give evidence. Next, it would seem that this small church to which the apse belonged came to be enlarged, and that in what we may still call Saxon times. The reason for this, which I just now hinted at, is grounded in the statement made by the Commission issued in 1529,

that S. Mary's Church was raised to the dignity of a Royal Chapel by King Edgar. This must have been some time between 959 and 975, when Edgar died. And this statement would point in the same direction as the condition of these old foundations, that not long after 950, the Church of S. Mary was re-built on a larger scale required by its new dignity. The apse is my evidence of the Church existing before 950, and the nave foundations, consisting largely of old materials and yet pre-Norman, as I hope to show directly, are my evidence of a *second* church which preceded the Conquest by one hundred years. A church it must have been of considerable size in those days, for it is described on occasion of the visit of S. Ulstan, the Bishop of Worcester, to Shrewsbury, as being the most conspicuous and venerable of the churches of Shrewsbury, a visit which took place about the time of the Conquest, and before the Abbey of Shrewsbury was built. When this second church was constructed, the builders had no occasion to interfere with the foundations of the apse of the earlier church, which still remained to tell their own tale nine centuries afterwards. They made them level with the floor, and left them buried where we found them.

But we may now get above ground, and I daresay it will be more satisfactory, if not more interesting, that I should go on to point out features of the Church, of which you can see and judge for yourselves.

I present two ground plans, which will make my conclusions better understood than any words could do. One of these gives the outline of the Norman Church, and shows also the position of the Apse in that which preceded it. The Church was, probably, extended further to the east in King Edgar's time, when he made it a Collegiate Church, and added to it the dignity of a Royal Chapel. But no trace of the limits of such extension was discovered when the floor of the chancel was laid bare. The second plan gives the Church as it now exists.

A church of a very large size was built in what we call the Norman period. It was a plain cruciform building, extending in length 140 feet from east to west, and with transepts extending 91 feet from north to south. Of this church some portions of the walls, either in their lower or their upper courses, can still be traced throughout its whole extent. We cannot assign to it an early date in the Norman period: probably not later than 1150, in the time of Henry II.; possibly a little earlier, in the reign of King Stephen. It was a simple cross, without any excrescence of Chapel or subordinate building to break its simple outline. There were four chapels in the transepts, but they scarcely projected beyond the thickness of the walls. I do not know whether any of you have paid a visit to a most interesting spot named Porchester, near Portsmouth, where a complete and unaltered Norman Church still stands within the old Roman Castle, which gives its name to the place. If you have, you will better appreciate what I am about to say; if you have not, I would recommend you to make it the object of the next holiday excursion which you may have in view. Porchester Church is not on quite so large a scale as S. Mary's, but in its date and in its structure it must correspond very nearly with what the Church of S. Mary must have been in the 12th century, before the low tower at the west end was built.

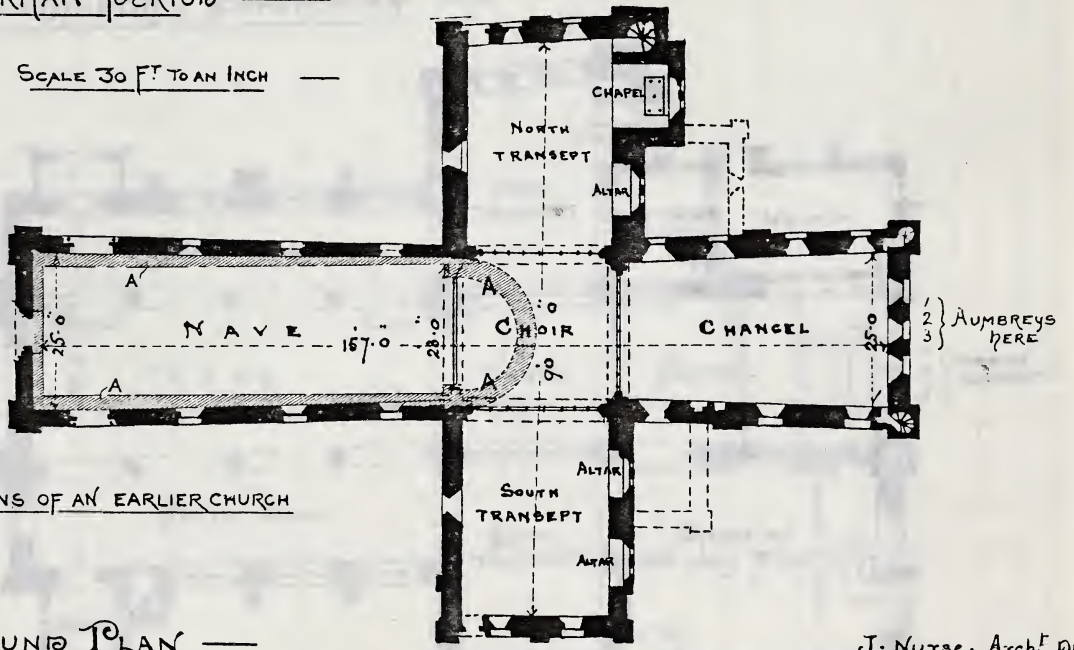
In constructing their Norman Church the builders at S. Mary's were content to take the outline of the second Saxon nave, and having razed it to the ground level, to erect their own walls exactly upon its foundations.

The stone they used, as well as the character of the masonry, prove that the work above and below ground are of different dates. In the chancel and the transepts both foundations and superstructure are of the same period. I said that some portion of the Norman work remains, either in its upper or its lower portion, throughout the whole extent of the cruciform plan. In the nave you may see it only in the upper part, whereas in

St. Mary's Church Shrewsbury

The Norman Period

No. 1. — Scale 30 Ft. to an Inch —



A·A·A·A· Remains of an earlier church

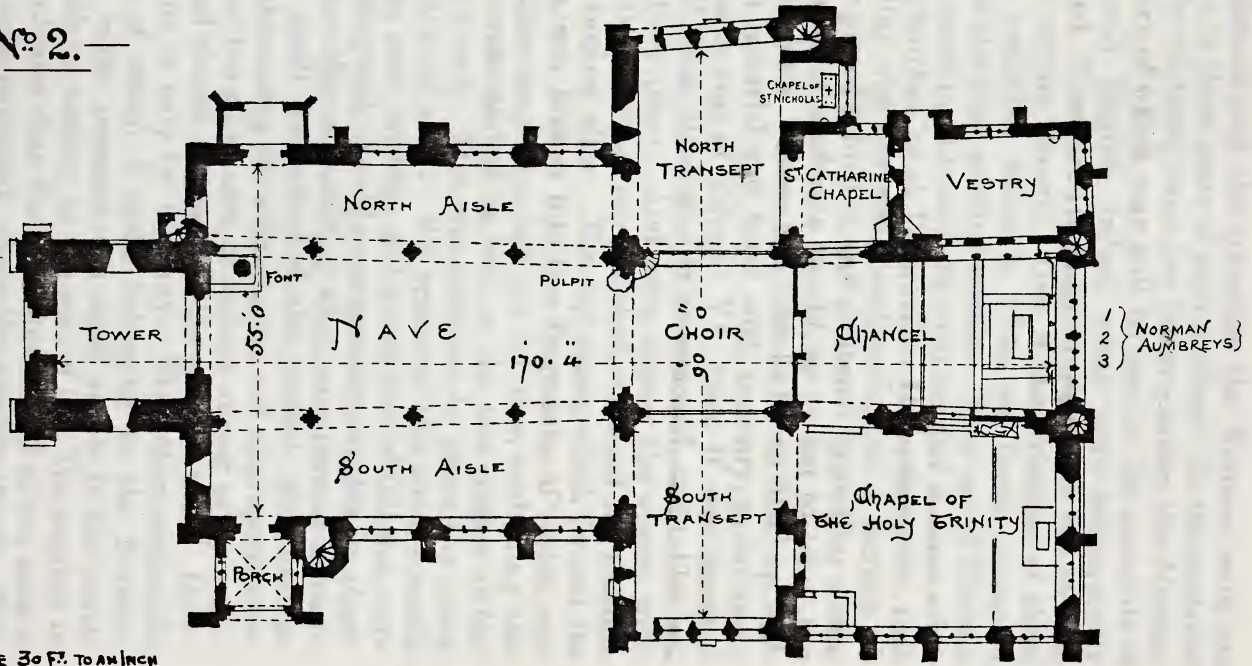
Ground Plan

J. Nurse. Archt. Del
Salop Septr 1894.

PHOTO-LITHO SPRAGUE & Co LONDON

St Mary's Church + Shrewsbury.

No 2.

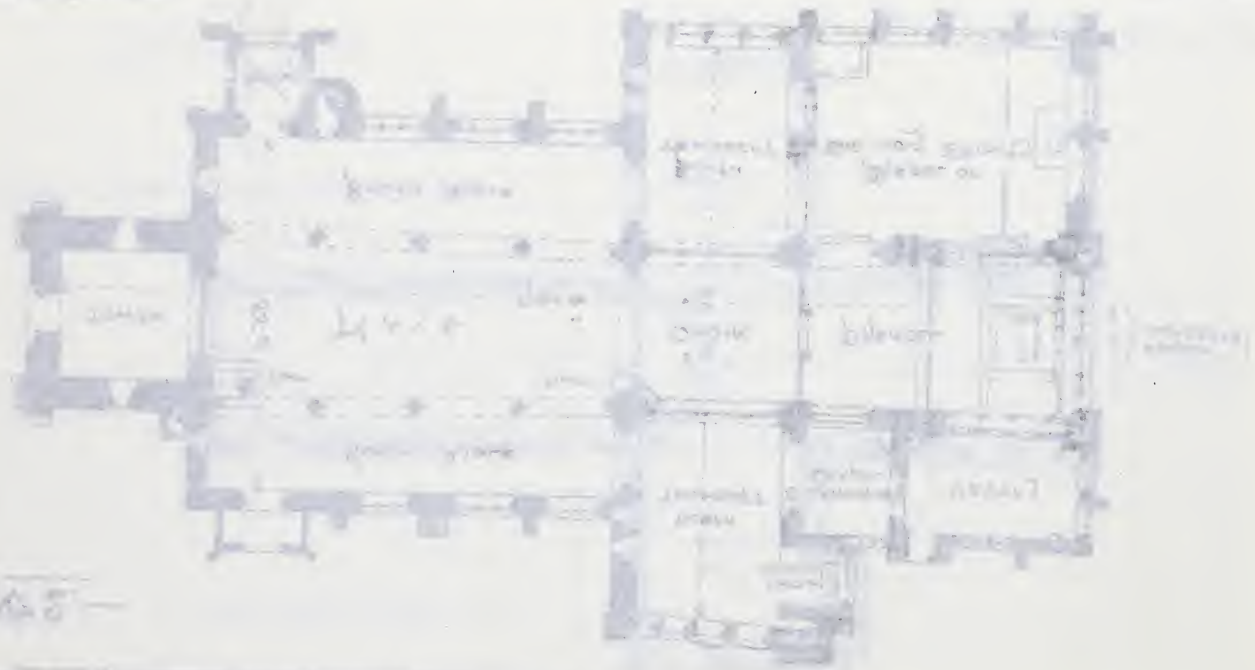


Scale 30 Ft. to an Inch

Ground Plan.

Shewing Successive Extensions from the Norman Period to the Present Time.

J. Nutsc. Arch.t Del
Salop. 1894.



the chancel and the transepts the Norman walls are visible in three parts of their surface. In the centre of the church there was a low lantern tower, the Norman masonry of which may still be seen in the spandrils of the early English arches, which were subsequently inserted. There are two singular features in the chancel which require remark. One is the existence of three large aumbries, which in 1868 we found concealed behind the then existing reredos. They are of Norman workmanship, and testify to what we find in some other large churches, as at Tideswell in Derbyshire, viz., that the altar was advanced westwards, and a sacristy or vestry placed behind it, and sheltered by an altar screen or reredos of moderate height, so as not to blind the east windows. These aumbries had been filled up with broken material and faced with masonry, probably in the fourth year of Edward VI., when it was directed that all stone altars should be removed, and tables set up in their place. And here, among the stones with which the aumbries were blocked, we found the remains of the broken altar. The top stone, which formed its surface, was broken into five fragments, of which one was rather more than half the full size, containing the centre cross marked as well as the two crosses at the northern end. This was sufficient to prove the exact size of the old altar. We preserved this stone beneath the altar now existing, and a new slab of full size, corresponding with the old measurement, supplies its place. I mention this as justifying what some persons think to be the small dimensions of the present altar, and as discountenancing the extravagant and disproportionate length of the altars now in fashion among many architects and church restorers at the present time. However, this is only by the way. The other noticeable feature of which I spoke belonging to the Norman chancel is the remnant of a small arcade in the north wall, with an aumbry to the east of it. The aumbry is plainly of later date than the arcade, and at one time a second niche extended, where the aumbry stands. But

what were these two niches, for there were certainly two, if not more. From their position relatively to the altar, which, as I said, was advanced towards the west, the most obvious suggestion is that they were sedilia; and the level, too, of the seat (if seat it was) with relation to the Norman floor of the chancel, would support that suggestion. But their form and lower construction are against this view, and I can give no decided opinion.

The Norman Church can be further traced in the external masonry of the chancel to the level of the Clerestory, but its features are less noticeable within; for the interior surface has been much altered when subsequently the chancel was groined in its early English period, and again when the groined roof was removed. There are, however, two indications of the Norman windows, one on the northern and one on the southern wall. These justify me in concluding that there must have been two windows in each bay on each side. This is quite what we should expect to find, for usually one Norman window of a larger size sufficed for each bay in the nave, while smaller windows were distributed at more frequent intervals in a Norman and in an early English chancel.

If we turn now to the Norman transepts we shall find the work of that date more evident than in other parts of the Church. Not only are the east and west walls in each of them almost entire, up to to the Corbel Table of their parapets, but in the south transept we have two of the Norman windows still remaining; one in the west wall, of the ordinary form, and one in the north wall, which is circular. These two windows, though now opening on both sides only into the Church, were originally open to the Churchyard. The transepts in their gables, both north and south, had probably two, if not three, Norman lights; and in the chancel I conjecture that Norman lights were, as at Buildwas, distributed in two tiers of three lights each.

So far of the Norman Church. I turn now to the very considerable alterations made in the early English

period; those, in fact, which give their chief interest and beauty to the interior of the fabric, and which, except as regards the windows, remain at this day almost untouched.

The first change to the complete Norman Church was the addition of a tower at the west end. I cannot assign a date, but it must have been added before the close of the 12th century. It is very plain, and was probably never much loftier than the level of the present bell chamber—or than the summit of the then existing central lantern. The next step seems to have been the enlargement of two, if not three, of the altar chapels in the eastern walls of the transepts, in one of which is a purely Norman window. The arches which connected them with the Church are somewhat earlier than the nave arcade, and appear to have led to the adoption of the same design a few years later in the two very similar arches at the end of the north and south aisles, which we should have expected to find adorned with mouldings corresponding to the nave arcade. All these arches partake of the heaviness and severity of the Norman style.

Then came the great change effected by the early English builders by the addition of the north and south aisles. They began their work, I suppose, about 1230, and it is worth your while to observe how they proceeded. They left the Norman masonry in the upper part of the walls untouched, carrying it as we might do at this day on crutches, i.e., two upright beams connected by a cross beam, which passed through the wall, where the spandrils of the new arches would occur. They then removed all the masonry between the level of the ground and the intended height of the new arcade. They planted their pillars on the old pre-Norman walls, of which I spoke at first, and then turned the arches, adopting a circular form, partly, perhaps, influenced by the preceding Norman style of the church, but chiefly it may be, lest by inserting a pointed arch, they should cut too far into the wide-jointed stones of the remaining

period; those, in fact, which give their chief interest and beauty to the interior of the fabric and which, except as regards the windows, remain at this day almost untouched.

The first change in the complete Norman Church was the addition of a tower at the west end. I cannot assign a date, but it must have been added before the close of the 12th century. It is very plain, and was probably never more lofty than the level of the present bell chamber—as from the remains of the then existing corbel pattern. The next step seems to have been the enlargement of two, if not three, of the other chapels, in the eastern walls of the transepts, in one of which is a purely Norman window. The arches which connected them with the Church are somewhat earlier than the nave arcade, and appear to have led to the adoption of the same design a few years later in the two very similar arches at the end of the north and south aisles which we should have expected to find adorned with mouldings corresponding to the nave arcade. All these arches partake of the heaviness and severity of the Norman style.

Then came the great change effected by the early English builders by the addition of the north and south aisles. They began their work, I suppose about 1190, and it is worth your while to observe how they proceeded. They left the Norman masonry in the upper part of the walls untouched, carrying it as we see it to this day on centres, i.e. two upright beams connected by a cross beam, which passed through the wall, where the spandrils of the new arches would occur. They then removed all the masonry between the level of the ground and the intended height of the new arcade. They planted their pillars on the old pre-Norman walls, of which I spoke at first, and then turned the arches, adopting a circular form, partly, perhaps, influenced by the preceding Norman work of the Church, but chiefly, it may be, and by inserting a pointed arch, they would not too far raise the unsupported masonry remaining

Norman masonry. They dealt first, it is clear, with the south aisle : the mouldings as well as the masonry are evidence of this ; and then in some ten years afterwards with the north aisle, where the mouldings are better, but the masonry is worse. The spandrils were clearly filled in afterwards when the crutches had been withdrawn. No doubt the interior of the church would have been more graceful if the nave arcade had been constructed with pointed arches corresponding with the choir arch. As it stands, the deep interval between the arcade and the Clevestory has a bald and unsatisfactory effect ; but I think what the church loses in beauty it gains in interest, for it testifies to a period when the Norman style had not altogether yielded to its successor, and in the construction itself we can observe exactly how the builders of that day set about their work. As to the north and south aisles, we can still trace the early English walls up to the sills of the windows, and the two western lancets still remain, though the head of that in the south aisle has been altered at some later date. I said the south aisle was first built. We have a second proof of this by a comparison of the two beautiful doorways to the north and south, and especially in the south porch. This porch, in its ground floor (for it has a chamber over it, added long afterwards) is a very interesting example of early English work, while it was still strongly influenced by the Norman. There is no corresponding porch to the north door, which is the more beautiful by far of the two doorways, but it was protected, we know, at one time by a wooden porch, which has been replaced by a stone one of very bad construction, in the first quarter of this century.

Having begun with the nave, the builders travelled eastwards. They removed the four Norman arches beneath the lantern tower at the intersection of the cross—not by pulling down the tower and rebuilding it, but by taking out one round arch at a time and inserting its pointed successor with as little disturbance of

the walls as possible. They connected the Leyburn Chapel and the Chapel of S. Catherine with the chancel by early English arches. They groined the chancel and constructed new windows at the east end, and on the north and south walls. Only one of these remains. It is of a very graceful form. No doubt there was then one exactly like it opposite, but we have no clue to the form of the east window. We can only conjecture that it took the shape of three lancets likewise, for the groined roof would not have permitted a loftier window than those on the sides, and the width of the chancel would not suffice for five lights, at least, if grouped in the same graceful proportion. In preparing for the groining they seem to have been at some trouble to bring the walls into a proper line and level, and to have employed some portions of the older work in doing so.

In dealing at this period with the transepts, they inserted at the north and south ends triple lancets of very good design—and in the east and west walls they set lancets for the most part in couples, in place of such Norman lights as had before existed. Of course we must imagine a well pitched roof above both in Norman and in early English times. The doorways into the transepts at either end bear tokens of having undergone reconstruction at the same time as the windows. They are visible only on the outside.

We come now to the style known in architecture as the Decorated. It has left its mark to a very slight extent upon S. Mary's. The roof of S. Catherine's Chapel was raised, and a decorated window in the form of a spherical triangle was inserted above the Norman window on the eastern wall. To the same style belong, also, the sepulchral arch in the same chapel, and possibly the chamber over the south porch with its window. There is the font also, which is one of great beauty, though it has suffered terribly from exposure at a time when it was cast out of the Church. It is exactly of the same pattern (though somewhat larger), and wrought, I doubt not, by the same hands as the

font at Conway Church. It probably stood originally where that at Conway still stands, at the bottom of the nave, on the south side, and was moved, I suppose, when first an organ was set up at the west end of the nave. This font, when rescued from the Churchyard, was placed in the north transept. It then travelled to S. Catherine's Chapel, and has since found, I hope, its resting place at the bottom of the nave once more. I think that there is nothing else of the Decorated period, for I do not mention the great east window as we now have it, which, though of the later Decorated style, belongs to our own times.

But we now come to that style which, in equal shares with the early English, has left its chief mark upon the Church—I mean the perpendicular. *This* is the ruling feature of the exterior, as *that* is of the interior. We can give no precise dates to the perpendicular work—some part, perhaps, to the middle, but the greater part to the latter half of the fifteenth century. To this period belong the north window in S. Catherine's Chapel, the whole construction of the large south chapel of the Holy Trinity and the large arch connecting it with the chancel, the raising of the wall of the south aisle, and the insertion in it of three large and well proportioned windows. Then, on the top of the old Norman tower at the west end, the beautiful spire shot up into the air. Taking the spire alone, as distinct from the tower, it is of unusual height, and stands third in rank among English spires. And then followed, for I think it came after these things, the greatest change of all. The lantern tower in the centre of the Church was lowered to the level of the apex of the arches which supported it; the eastern arch was cut away; the groining of the chancel was removed; and one continuous clerestory from east to west was added to both nave and chancel. A most beautiful ceiling was placed over the nave. The rood, which, we may conclude, had stood under the western arch of the choir, was placed over the arch, where we

found in 1865 the bottom beam of it still lying, with the three mortice holes for the rood itself and the accompanying figures of S. Mary and S. John. There were two large east windows, one to the chancel, and one of almost equal size to the Trinity Chapel. Of their exact form I can say nothing, for their original tracery disappeared soon after they were built. The window in the chapel was destroyed by a severe storm of wind, and that in the chancel seems to have been so seriously damaged at the same time that within a hundred years it was necessary to replace it by the window of poor Elizabethan design which many of us remember existing thirty-six years ago. As to the window in the chapel, its construction was peculiar. The window was very large, the walls were very thin and weak for so large a gable. The builders, therefore, sought to remedy this defect by a large buttress carried up the centre of the window, which might support the mullions and yet allow of one circumflex head. The buttress, as we found it before the recent restoration of this gable, was undoubtedly part of the original construction.

An interesting question comes in here, viz., how came it that so great a change in the church was effected within the limit of so few years; and that the more costly work (as, for instance, the roof of the nave and the exterior of the South Chapel) was not done in those parts of the church for which the Dean and Chapter were responsible. The College was not a wealthy one, and much of the expense must have been gathered from outside. I can only suggest that the frequent residence of Edward IV. in Shrewsbury, and the influence perhaps of some about the Court had much to do with furnishing the supplies. The family of Grafton in Shrewsbury had supplied the King with a tutor for his son, afterwards Edward V. The same man continued to be tutor to the eldest son of Henry VII. He became not only Dean of S. Mary's, but Archdeacon of Stafford, Warden of Battlefield, Vicar of S. Alkmond, Rector of Withing-

ton, Prebendary of S. Chad's, Prebendary of Lichfield, and, I am proud to add, Archdeacon of Salop, and he was acknowledged to be what his monument calls him, "the most worshipful priest living in his days." This man's influence must, no doubt, have been great, and much of the work at S. Mary's, of which I have been speaking, must have been going on in his younger, and probably more active, days.

One further work I must notice in the church as belonging to its architectural history before it came down to our time. It is the raising of the north aisle, so that it might correspond to that on the south side. Of all unlikely times, this took place during the Commonwealth, when those in authority, whether Presbyterian ministers or Puritan laymen, were much more given to destroy than to edify. In 1652 Mr. Tallents, a layman, and a good scholar, of Magdalene College, Cambridge, was sent by Richard Baxter to be minister at St. Mary's Church and parish. Baxter had great influence with the Parliament, and, being a Shropshire man, he seems to have taken much care in the appointments which were made here when the true parish priests were ejected. It is to the credit of Tallents that he did not knock the church about, as so many of his Presbyterian fellows did in the churches (I cannot say committed to their care, but) surrendered to their cruel mercies. He found the north aisle low and dark, lighted only by the narrow early English lancets, to the existence of which the lower portion of its walls still testify. So he raised the walls and inserted windows to correspond to those in the south aisle; but neither the architects nor the masons of his day could properly do the work. The jambs of their windows have no splay, and their arches are of false construction. The mouldings also look as stiff as if they had been cast instead of cut; still the work is well meant, and is not offensive except to a practised eye.

I have now told my tale of the architectural story of the church. I have not attempted to deal with its

ecclesiastical history, nor have I said anything about the very interesting collection of painted glass which it contains. I hope, if I live, to gather all these things into the form of a little book, which, though I doubt not, may contain many errors, yet may correct some into which my predecessors have fallen, and will preserve some fragments of the Church's story which they did not know; and I must leave it to those who come after me to correct my mistakes, and to add many things which are not yet known, but which I think may be discovered when the Records of Shrewsbury, and especially those of the Drapers' Company, have been thoroughly explored.

GRANT BY HENRY VIII. TO EDWARD HIGGYNS OF THE DEANERY OF ST. MARY'S, SHREWSBURY, 1513.

(Extracted from Patent Roll, 5 Henry VIII., pars 2, mem. 15).

Rex omnibus ad quos &c. salutem Sciatis quod nos ex mero motu nostro et certa scientia dedimus et concessimus ac per presentes damus et concedimus Edwardo Higgyns clerico capellano nostro Decanatum Collegii beate Marie Virginis infra villam nostram de Shrewesbery licfeldensis dioceseos perliberam resignationem sive dimissionem Magistri Ade Grafton ultimi Decani ejusdem vacantem et ad donacionem nostram pleno jure spectantem Habendum et tenendum dictum Decanatum cum suis juribus et pertinenciis universis durante vita naturali dicti Edwardi Higgyns Salva dicto Magistro Ada Grafton durante vita sua naturali annua pensione sex marcarum annuatim sibi solvendum per quemcumque successorem ibidem futurum In cujus rei testimonium &c. Teste Rege apud Westmonasterium vij° die Junij.

per ipsum Regem &c.

(Translation).

The King to all to whom these Letters Patent shall come greeting. Know ye that we of our own motion and certain knowledge have given and granted, and by these presents do give and grant to Edward Higgyns clerk our chaplain, the Deanery of the College of Blessed Mary the Virgin within our town of Shrewsbury and diocese of Lichfield, vacant by the free resignation or dismissal of Master Adam Grafton the last Dean of the same, and of full right belonging to our gift. To have and to hold the said Deanery with all its rights and appurtenances, during the natural life of the said Edward Higgyns. Reserving to the said Master Adam Grafton during his natural life the annual pension of six marcs to be paid to him annually by his successor there, whoever he may be. In witness whereof, &c. Witness the King at Westminster the seventh day of June.

By the King &c.

W. G. D. F.

HISTORY OF SHREWSBURY HUNDRED OR LIBERTIES.

By the late Rev. JOHN BRICKDALE BLAKEWAY, M.A., F.S.A.

Continued from 2nd Series, Vol. V., p. 394.

LEATON.

A township in the chapelry of Abrighton and liberties of Shrewsbury.[1] In the Saxon times Letone was holden by Hunni, the same person who also held the isle of Rossall; and it was rated to the Danegeld at one hide. After the Conquest it devolved to Earl Roger, under whom it was holden by one Anschitil, whose name only occurs in this one instance in our Shropshire Domesday. It was then two carucates.[2]

From Anschitil descended the lords of this manor, who took their name[3] from it, for their service of castle ward was found by the jurors in 3 Edw. I. to have existed in the days of Earl Roger.

I do not find any further mention of this place before the *Testa de Nevill* 12 and 13 John, wherein it is recorded that Adam de Leton held his land by eight days' castle ward at Shrewsbury with his cross bow, upon his own charges; if his attendance upon that service was required for any greater length of time, his

[1] Leaton Manor occurs in St. Mary's Parish Books, 1673.

[2] [Not carucates, but ox-teams. Domesday says, "There was land for two ox-teams. In the demesne is one (team), and there are two *hospites*, who pay 4s. 8d rent. It was worth 8s. It is now worth 10s." *Hospites* were tenants above the condition of serfs, who paid their rent in money.—Ed.]

[3] Gilbert de Leton occurs as witness to a Hadnall deed between 1182 and 1201.—*Cf.*, Eyton x., 208.—Ed.]

expenses were to be defrayed by the King. This Adam was succeeded by Roger, of whom we read in the *Testa de Nevill* of . . . Hen. III.,[1] that his sergeantry, which was extended to fifteen days, was alienated in part. Roger was succeeded by Adam, a son. The feodary or Hundred roll of Shrewsbury, temp. Ed. I., relates that on Adam's death the escheator took the vill of Leton into the King's hands, anno primo Edw. I., and records among the widows whose marriage belongs to the King, Aunscia (perhaps Amicia) widow of Adam de Leton, and adds that Richard, his son and heir, was then married without licence. Roger de Hanstone had purchased this marriage, valued at £3 6s. 8d., from John fitz Aer the escheator, but the young gentleman, it appears, had thought fit to chuse for himself. His grandmother, Petronilla, had done the same thing before him; after her husband Roger's death she married without leave Elias de Stoke; but she was again a widow at the time of the last mentioned Hundred Roll.

In a subsequent part of the same record his tenure is stated. His service of castle ward had been extended to fifteen days, and the last was reckoned at one hide. But the King's eschaetor had compounded with him for the service by an annual rent of 40d. In 2 Ed. II. Richard de Leton held a messuage, four bovates of land, and a mill in Leton in capite by the sergeantry of finding a man cum arcu et tribus pilletis[2] non pernat' at castle ward of Shrewsbury for forty days; but this was only to be demanded during the existence of war with Wales. (Compend: Escaet., Harl. MSS., 708.)

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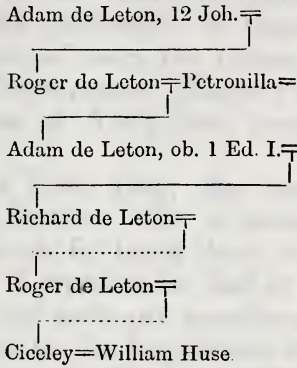
[1] [Eyton dates this "about March, 1247."—Ed.]

[2] Pilatus or piletta, is expounded to mean a bolt, an arrow shot from a cross bow. Blount says it was so called from the pila or round knob placed about two inches below the head to hinder the arrows going too far into the deer's body. What this has to do with a military service I do not know, nor can I tell the meaning of the following words, non pernat'! [Eyton translates them *unfeathered*.—Ed.]

In 21 Edw. III., by an Inquisition of ad quod damnum (Dodsworth's MSS., vol. 60), Roger de Leeton is permitted to hold a moiety of the manor of Leeton for life, remainder to William Huse and Cecily his wife, and the heirs of their bodies, remainder to his own right heirs in fee. Mrs. Huse was, I suppose, a daughter, or other descendant of the settler.



Pat. 22 Edw. III., p. 1, m. 36. Licence to Roger de Leton to enfeoff Roger Don and Roger de Ercalewe, chaplains, in a moiety of the manor of Leton-juxta-Muriden held of Us in capite, that they may enfeoff him therein for life; remainder to William Husee and Cecily his wife and the heirs of their bodies, remainder to his own right heirs.[1]

In 20 Rich. II. Thomas Burleton is found to die seized of a messuage and carucate of land in Leeton, holden by a rent of 3s. 4d. (Compend. Escaet., ut supra). Roger was his son and heir. This should

[1] [Roger de Leton changed his mind about this entail, for a new licence, dated 10th Oct., 1350, allowed his trustees to demise the estate to Roger de Leton for life, with remainder to Reginald son of Cecily de Habberley and Alice daughter of John de Lee, and the heirs of their bodies, with remainder to Thomas son of William de Burleton in tail. Roger de Leton was dead in Oct., 1353, seized in fee-tail of a moiety of Leton, and his heir was Richard, son of William de Burleton, then aged 22. It does not appear how the Burletons were related to Roger de Leton. *Cf.* Eyton x., 210, 211.—Ed.]

seem to be the 40d. for which the sergeantry of castle ward had been commuted by Edward I's. escheator.

William Burleton, Roger's son, held the same premises in 6 Hen. IV. They continued in the same family (which I should be glad to trace from William and Cecilia Huse) for many years, but by the 7th of Henry VII. the estate in Leton, late John Burleton's, was in the possession of Thomas Pontesbury, whose descendant of both his names sold it in 39 Eliz. to Edward Owen, gent. (Lloyd's MSS.), I suppose one of the Owens of Abrightlee, ancestor of those of Eaton Mascott.

Thomas Cole, Esq., who was born about 1581, is called of Leaton. He is assessed to the poor of St. Mary's parish for lands there in 1634, but is omitted in 1638. I presume he died in the interval.

I have not seen any mention of the manor of Leaton subsequent to the Inquisition of 21 Edw. III. As the corporation gradually acquired by several charters the various manorial rights, the lesser manors seem to have ceased to use their functions. The corporation now considers itself supreme lord of the manor throughout its liberties, and exercised all manorial privileges within the township of Leaton till the year 17 . ., when it sold them, within those limits, to Mr. Lloyd of Domgay, the descendant of a family resident here from the middle of the 17th century.[1]

. . . Lloyd of Domgay is now considered as lord of the manor of Leaton.

[Mr. Eyton notes that besides the Domesday Manor of Letone there was a hide of land, usually accounted a moiety of Leaton, which was probably originally a member of the Domesday Manor of Albrighton. The monks of Shrewsbury were the lords, but made a feoffment of it to the Pantulfs. He traces this moiety through a succession of tenants to John de Wottenhull in 1350. (See Eyton x., 211–213).

[1] 1684, Leaton Manor, Edward Lloyd. He succeeded Thomas White, who appears first in 1662, and seems to have succeeded Mary Style.

The descent of the Leaton estate in the LLoyd family may thus be traced :—(1) Edward LLoyd of Leaton Hall, married Elizabeth, daughter of Isaac Cleaton of Hollings, and dying in 1693, was succeeded by his son,—(2) Edward LLoyd of Leaton Hall, High Sheriff 1727, married Susan, daughter of Peter Scarlett of Hogstowe, and died in 1764. His son (3) Edward LLoyd of Leaton Hall, born 1714, married Jane, daughter and heiress of Thomas LLoyd of Domgay, and dying in 1780 was succeeded by his son,—(4) Francis LLoyd of Leaton and Domgay, M.P. for Co. Montgomery, married Elizabeth, daughter of Arthur Graham of Hockley Lodge, Co. Armagh. This Francis LLoyd died in 1799, leaving issue five sons, of whom (5) Francis, John Arthur, and Charles Spencer successively enjoyed the Leaton estate. After the death s.p. of Charles Spencer LLoyd in 1876, his nephew,—(6) Arthur Philip LLoyd (son of the Rev. Henry James LLoyd, by his wife Elizabeth, daughter of Philip John Miles of Leigh Court), succeeded to the Leaton estate. He married Katherine Selina, daughter of Vice-Admiral the Hon. Charles Orlando Bridgeman; and dying 9 Feb., 1893, was succeeded by his son,—(7) Arthur Henry Orlando LLoyd, the present owner of Leaton.

The LLoyds trace their descent from Robert ap John of Bangor, Co. Flint, who married Matilda, daughter and heiress of David Lloyd of Penley and Croesmere, and both he and his wife are said to be descended from Tudor Trevor. They are also lineally descended from Edward III.

Leaton Knolls, the seat of the LLoyd family, was erected about 1820, and the grounds are planted with choice forest trees and rare shrubs. It was purchased from the Jefferies family. Leaton Hall, their earlier seat, but now a farm-house, was built in 1683; on the side of the house is this inscription,—E. LL. E. 1683. The Knolls was lately tenanted by Captain Ellis Brooke Cunliffe, and now by Captain Geoffrey Joseph Shakerley.

In 1327 the following inhabitants of Letone were assessed to the Subsidy :—Roger de Letone, John Ive, Mabilla le Bredleder, Richard, son of Thomas, Roger Clek', William Mallesone, and Reginald de Burghton. The two latter were sub-collectors of the tax.

A Court Book of 1508, preserved amongst the Corporation Muniments, gives the names of these inhabitants of Leaton who owed suit and service to the Court at Shrewsbury :—Leeton—Thomas Pontisbury, John Ive, William Wolascot, Cantaria beate Marie in Ecclesia beate Marie Salop, Raeger Wright, Richard Brown (deceased), John Sponeley, William Aron, and Richard ap Howell. In 1525 these names occur :—Leeton—George Pontisbury, Thomas Lee, John Ive, Nicholas Wydder, Richard Lee, Nicholas Wheyrike, William Symkyn, Fulco Lee, and Richard Davies. In 1553 :—Leaton—Thomas Lee, Esq., Thomas Pontesbury, Esq., Furco Lee, Thomas Wollascot, Nicholas Widder senior, John Lee, George Meyryck, John Genno, Thomas Lee junior, Roger Alen, William Ive, Henry Broke, and Nicholas Widder junior. In 1578 :—Richard Lea, Esq., Thomas

Pontesbury, Richard Felton, William Woollascott, Roger Heynes, Nicholas Wydder, Geoffey Shelvocke, John Genowe, William Felton, Richard Wynne, John Dune, John Jenkyns, Evanus ap Evan, and Arthur Fallowes. In 1615 :—Leaton—Humfrey Lee, Esq., Edward Owen, Esq., William Wollascot, Esq., Thomas Cole, gent., Richard Gennoe, William Wicharley, Francis Wither, Thomas Morris, and Evan ap Rees. In 1674:—Leaton—Ralph Cleaton, Esq., Pontesbury Owen, Esq., William Wollascot, Esq., Thomas White, John Elsmere, Thomas ap Thomas, and William Jenkin.

Amongst the Shrewsbury Free School papers preserved amongst the Corporation Muniments is a bundle of deeds relating to the tithes of Leaton, of which the following is a brief abstract :—

1585-6, 28 Elizabeth, Jan. 20th, Indenture between the Bailiffs and Burgesses of Shrewsbury of the one part and Adam Mytton of Shrewsbury, gentleman, of the other part. The said Bailiffs and Burgesses, with the consent of John Meighen, Chief or Head Schoolmaster of the free Grammar School, granted and demised to said Adam Mytton, All their Tithes or tenths of corn, grain, sheife and hay, growing and being within the Township of Leaton within the Liberties of Shrewsbury, from Michaelmas last for 21 years, at the yearly rent of £6.

1606-7, 4 James I., March 20th. Lease from the said Bailiffs and Burgesses to Richard Prowde the elder, of Shrewsbury, draper, of the said Tithes, for 21 years at the yearly rent of £8 3s. 4d.

1627-8, 3 Charles I., March 20th. Lease from the said Bailiffs and Burgesses to Charles Benyon of Shrewsbury, gent., of All their Tithes of garb, blade, grain and hay, growing or being within the Township of Leaton, for 21 years at the yearly rent of £8 3s. 8d.

1670, 22 Charles II., October 10th. Lease from the Mayor, Aldermen, and Burgesses of Shrewsbury, with the consent of Andrew Taylor, Head Schoolmaster, to John Elsmere of Leaton, yeoman, of the same Tithes, for 21 years, at the yearly rent of £8 10s. 6d.

1691, 3 William and Mary, October 29th. Lease from said Mayor, Aldermen and Burgesses, with the consent of Richard Lloyd, gent., Head Schoolmaster, to the said John Elsmere, of same Tithes for 21 years, at the rent of £8.

The Leaton Inclosure Act, which is entitled "An Act for Inclosing Lands in the Township and Manor of Leaton, in the Parish of St. Mary in Shrewsbury, in the County of Salop," was passed in 1809. The Act recites that there were within the Township and Manor of Leaton 223 acres of Commons and Waste Lands, and that Francis Lloyd of Domgay, Co. Montgomery, Esq., was Lord of the Manor of Leaton, and that he and Stephen Denston, John Bickerton, and John Oare, gentlemen, were proprietors within the said Township and Manor. Henry Bowman of Knockin, Esq., was appointed the Commissioner for setting out and allotting the said Commons and Waste Lands ; and he was to allot one-fourteenth part thereof to the Lord of the Manor, in compensation for his right to the soil and minerals,

and the residue amongst the proprietors and other persons interested therein.

The Field-Names in Leaton parish are as follows:—Shelf Patch, Ploughing Broom, Upper Riddings, Jenkins' Meadow, Clayhouse Field, Big Ox, Allen's Leasow, Beech's Dingle, Fox and Does, Corner Marl Leasow, Big Butcher's Yard, Big Knight's Leasow, Little Dun's Leasow, Kynaston's Piece, Lloyd Bayley's Field, Mucklestone's Allotment, Bebbington's Croft, Moses Piece, Hemp Yard, Swan's Nest, Sane's Leasow, Wynn's Croft, Boylin's Patch, Long Slang, Cutberry Leasow, Yagden Lane Field, Peplow's Ground, Weir Field, Ladies Meadow, Dainty's Patch, Sib's Patch, The Wake's Patch, Duckett's Patch.

THE CHURCH.

Leaton Church, dedicated to the Holy Trinity, was erected in 1859, at the expense of John Arthur LLoyd of Leaton Knolls, J.P. and D.L., who died in 1864, from designs by the late Samuel Pountney Smith. It is a stone building, consisting of chancel, nave, north aisle, and tower with pinnacles and crocketed spire. The tower was built in 1871 by Charles Spencer LLoyd of Leaton Knolls. The District Chapelry of Leaton was formed 26 March, 1860, out of the parishes of Fitz, Preston Gobalds, and St. Mary, Shrewsbury. The LLoyd family are patrons of the Vicarage. The Church was consecrated 21 Oct., 1859. The Vicarage House was built the same year. In the Church is a Brass with this inscription:—In affectionate remembrance of Elizabeth, third daughter of Francis LLoyd (of Domgay, in the County of Montgomery, and of Leaton in the County of Salop, Esq., and M.P. for the former county), and of Elizabeth, third daughter and coheiress of Arthur Graham of Yockley Lodge, in the County of Armagh, Ireland, Esq., who died at Leaton Knolls, Aug. 1st, 1843, aged 60 years, and was buried in the family vault in Fitz Churchyard. Also of Maria Penelope, eldest daughter of the above-named Francis and Elizabeth LLoyd, who died at Leaton Knolls, May 7th, 1848, aged 69 years, and whose earthly remains were deposited beside those of her dear sister. Also of Charlotte Sophia, fourth daughter of the above-named Francis and Elizabeth LLoyd, who died at Leaton Knolls, Nov. 2nd, 1861, aged 70 years, and was buried in the family vault in the Leaton Churchyard. "Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord." Also of Jane Emma, second daughter of the above-named Francis and Elizabeth LLoyd, who died April 14th, 1866, aged 83 years. Also of Henry James LLoyd, M.A., Rector of Selattyn, in this county, fifth son of the above Francis and Elizabeth LLoyd, who died Sept 3rd, 1853, aged 59 years. Also of Charles Spencer LLoyd, of Leaton Knolls, Esq., D.L. and J.P. for County of Salop, born 11th Sept, 1789, died 20th June, 1876.

Also this inscription:—In affectionate remembrance of John Arthur LLoyd, second son of Francis and Elizabeth LLoyd. He was Deputy Chairman of the Shropshire Quarter Sessions and Deputy Lieutenant

of the County. He was patron of the living of Leaton Church. He died 22nd June, 1864, aged 77 years.

"Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord, for they rest from their labours, and their works do follow them."

INCUMBENTS OF LEATON.

1859. Stratford Leigh. Incumbent until 1865.

1865. Richard Hugh Cholmondeley, M.A. Trin. Coll., Camb.; son of the Rev. Charles Cowper Cholmondeley; born 24 August, 1828; married 19 June, 1855, Emily daughter of Henry Ralph Beaumont, Esq., of Newby Park, Yorkshire; Incumbent until 1873; Rector of Hodnet since 1873, and Rural Dean.

1874. Edmund Vincent Pigott, M.A. Corp. Chr. Coll., Camb.; Incumbent until 1885; Vicar of Trentham since 1885.

1887. Thomas Kynaston Gaskell, M.A. Trin. Coll., Camb.; Vicar of Longthorpe since 1891; formerly Rector of Folksworth, 1878-1885.

1891. James Mackay, M.A. Trin. Hall, Camb.; the present Incumbent of Leaton. He married 1 June, 1892, Georgina Mary, daughter of George Kenyon, Captain R.N.

For the Field-Names, and much of the information about the Church and Incumbents, I am indebted to the Rev. J. Mackay, the present Incumbent.—Ed.]

LONGNER.

Longner is written Languenare in Domesday; in other ancient records Longenolre: the etymology of either I cannot trace. At the time of Domesday it was in the Hundred of Recordine, and was part of the property of the See of Lichfield, under which it was holden by one Wigot. It was rated at one hide, but there were two carucates[1] (or 240 acres) in tillage, one whereof was demesne land or occupied by the owner, Wigot, who kept there two servants; the other carucate was occupied by two villans. The whole was then valued at eight shillings, which was also the value of it in the time of the Confessor. The present admeasurement of this estate amounts to 312 acres, as I am informed,[2] but as this includes every kind of land, wood, arable and pasture, and the Domesday carucata referred only to arable, it was then, in all probability, in as full a state of cultivation as at present, if its extent is now equal to what it was then.

Wigot seems to have been a Norman,[3] since his name does not occur among the landholders of Shropshire in the Confessor's time. He also bore the name of Azo, and under that name alone appears as the sub-tenant of Berrington and some other manors. But he occurs under the designation of Azo Bigod in the charters of the Abbey of Shrewsbury, to which monastery he was a very early benefactor, bestowing upon it half a hide

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[1] [Not carucates, but ox-teams. *Cf.* Eyton viii., 205.—Ed.]

[2] Longner, 311 acres, 2 roods, 20 perches. One of ye fields is called Stonecastle field, but thought to be only in ridicule.

[3] [Blakeway is in error here. Wigot was a Saxon, and not a Norman, and was not the same person as Azo Bigot who held Berrington and Lege (or Longnor) under Rainald the Sheriff, and who gave half a hide in Longnor to Shrewsbury Abbey. This Longnor, which Azo held, is in Condover Hundred, and must not be confounded with Longner-upon-Severn, which Wigot held. Shrewsbury Abbey is not known ever to have possessed anything in Longner-upon-Severn. Probably Wigot was soon dispossessed of Longner. *Cf.* Eyton vi., 68; viii., 205.—Ed.]

in Langenalre (so the name is there written) in or before the reign of Henry I. What became of this donation at a subsequent period I do not find, but I conceive that it thereupon became a part of the Abbey parish, and so quickly lost all traces of its separate existence.

Nor am I able to trace the descent of this manor any further in the family of Wigot. Whether himself or his descendants were involved in the unsuccessful revolt of Robert de Belesme, and so lost the possession of it, or became extinct, or lost their name in some other, is alike unknown; but the William de Langenolre or Langeleire who held in 12 John by the tenure of a white hawk (*Testa de Nevill*, p. 55b), and him of the same name mentioned in the *Monasticon* as having married Dionysia, the daughter of Roger Muisson of Opinton, a benefactor to Wombridge Priory, may have been connected with the other Longnor in this county, or with the place of the same name in Staffordshire, as probably as with Longner-upon-Severn.[1]

In the Haughmond Chartulary are two deeds respecting Longner-upon-Severn, or, as it is there called, Longenore juxta Preston. By the first of these Gaufrid son of Reiner de Wirleya grants to the canons of that Abbey half a virgate of land in Longenholre, viz., that which Godewin held: this in exchange for a virgate of land in Wirlega which his aunt (*amita*) had given them. Witnessed by William fitz Alan, John le Strange, Hamo his brother, Stephen de Stanton, William de Hedlega, Roger de Tirne, Richer de Shawbury, Guimar de Rodintune, Philip de Peninton, William my heir, and Thomas and Jordan my sons. The same witnesses attest a confirmation of the above by the son of the

[1] [This William de Langenolre, mentioned in *Testa de Nevill* and *Monasticon*, is identical with William fitz Geoffrey, son of Geoffrey fitz Reginald de Wirley, and was lord of Longner-upon-Severn. He married as early as 1199 Dionisia, one of the co-heiresses of Roger Mussun of Uppington, and widow of Roger Bocharte. He died in 1223. *Cf.* Eyton vi., 207; viii., 165, 206.—Ed.]

grantor, who styles himself William, son of Gaufrid de Longenhalre;[1] and this is not the only instance of a connection between this place and that monastery, for in 1459 I find that Richard Burnell, Abbot of Haghmon, ordains that Sir William Salop, the sub-prior, or prior claustral, and his successors, shall enjoy the chamber which the said Sir William has built under the dormitory, with the garden thereto annexed, *anciently called Longenore's garden*, and the dovehouse therein.

In the Inquisition of St. Chad's possessions, 1326, among the "Decimæ spectantes Decano," is "de manerio de Longenolre totam decimam."

In 41 Edward III. William de Haulghton[2] held a moiety of the manor[3] (or manors) of Wythyngton and Longenore in tail (*Pedes fin' eo anno*). In 18 Ric. II. John Holgot and Beatrice, his wife, levy a fine of the moiety of the same manor (or manors) "ex Walter' Grey et Marg'," by which is meant, I suppose, as that which they had of the gift of Grey and his wife.

From this time I find no mention of it for nearly three centuries, till 22 Rich. II., 1398, when it appears in the family of Grey, John White in that year levying a fine of his manor of Longnor up the Were to Walter

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[1] [Eyton states that this William fitz Geoffrey died without issue in 1223, when his widow Dionisia sued William de Duston (son of William de Duston, who had acquired Longner by feoffment of William fitz Geoffrey), for one-third of the vill of Longenhalre, which she claimed in dower. William de Duston's grand-daughter and heir Roisia married Sir John D'Oyley, whose grand-daughter and heir Joan married Sir Thomas Lewknor. Thus the D'Oyleys and Lewknors became mesne lords of Longner, under the Bishops of Lichfield. *Cf.* Eyton viii., 206-8.—Ed.]

[2] [The Haughtons, who also held Cleobury North and Withington, held Longner by feoffment of Sir John D'Oyley and Roisia de Dunston his wife, from circa 1230. *Cf.* Eyton iii., 25-28; viii., 76, 209.—Ed.]

[3] The extract is abbreviated man', and consequently does not exhibit the sign of number. [See a note of fines, escheats, &c., relating to Withington and Longner at the end of this account.—Ed.]

Grey and Margaret, his wife. In the second year of Henry IV. the said Walter held it of the Earl of Arundel. From this we may infer that it was then connected with Withington, which was a part of the extensive possessions of that Earl, and of which Longner was esteemed a hamlet in the reign of Henry VIII. In 1422,[1] Alexander, son of Walter Grey, held it. Here again we are at a loss for the connecting links between the Greys and the family who next appear in possession here, that of Burton,[2] and whose descendants still hold it.

Whether this family was originally of this county, or came from Yorkshire, is uncertain. It is probable they were of Bourton. The celebrated antiquary Browne Willis[3] decided for the first in the epitaph drawn up by him for Mrs. Lingen in Queinton Church, Co. Gloucester; the pedigrees of the Heralds decide for the last. By a grant of John Wrythe, norroy, dated at York 22 May, 1478, 18 Edw. IV., Robert Burton of *the Court of York*[4] is stated to have continued "with the king our sovereign lord and *Comes of Guij* in all his wars," in reward for which services the said herald makes him a grant of arms, viz., party per pale azure and purple, a cross engrailed or, between four white roses, in manifest

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[1] An Alexander Grey, chaplain, presents in 1475 to Bourton on Dunsmore, Warwickshire.

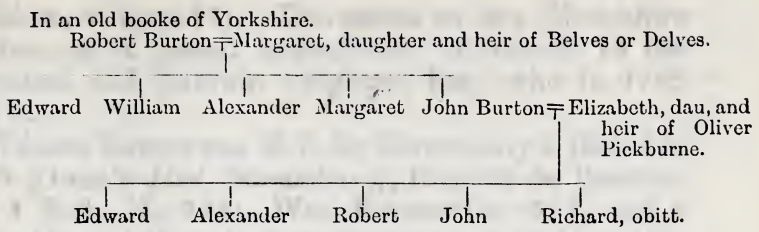
[2] [Eyton notes that the Burtons were seated at Longner long before any extant account of that family would lead us to suppose, and probably held it under the Haughtons and their successors the Greys. A deed is preserved at Longner dated 28 May, 1316, by which Edward Burton of Longner, gives to Thomas Cresset of Leighton, an acre of land at Garmeston in exchange for 1½ acres there. This deed mentions adjacent lands of Edward Burton. *Cf.* Eyton viii., 210.—Ed.]

[3] William Burton, the antiquary, appears to have been of the same opinion. "The Burtons were of Shropshire," says he.

[4] It has been thought to be an error of the transcript for the "counte" (i.e., county) of York. But the household establishment of the great Richard, Duke of York, who aspired to the Crown in the reign of Henry VI., may have been so called.

allusion to that distinguishing badge of the House of York. The words *Comes of Guij* have no apparent meaning, and as the original of the grant is not to be found, it is necessary to have resource to conjecture. I shall state what seems to me most probable. Among the most valiant partisans on the side of Edward IV. was his step-son *Thomas de Grey* (son of Sir John Grey of Groby, by Elizabeth Wydville, afterwards the consort of that monarch). He was in high favour with his royal father-in-law, by whom he was successively raised to the dignities of Earl of Huntingdon and Marquis of Dorset, and it cannot be thought improbable that Mr. Burton, a warm adherent of the same party, and a servant in the royal household, for he appears in the same year, 1478, as one of the yeomen ushers, should have served in a military capacity under this Thomas of Grey, who may therefore be the person intended by the unintelligible expression "Comes of Guij" in the grant before us; or that Grey, if the estate at Longner devolved upon him from its former possessors of the same name, should reward the services of this his faithful follower, by a liberal donation of this nature. (See the *History of Shrewsbury*, sub. ann. 1475).

Will. Burton adds that the Burtons were "a family, sometime, *for no ordinary relations, not to be mentioned in the place*, very gratious with the several princes of the royal house of York," an expression which seems to allude to a tradition of their being descended from Lionel, Duke of Clarence, by the wife of one Musard. Musard is said to have been the original name of Burton of Burton Constable; and the said Duke of Clarence in his will 3 Oct., 1368, has a legacy to Sir Richard Musard, Knight, of a golden belt and a war-horse, called Maungeneleyn (perhaps *monn geneteyn, my gennet*). *Royal Wills*, p. 88. But whether these are sufficient grounds on which to erect a royal genealogy must be left to the consideration of the reader. In Harl. MSS. 5848, on a loose paper in an old hand is the following:—



This is placed opposite to the pedigree of "Edward Burton, groome of the Rhoades, he descended out of Yorkshire, tempore Hen. VII."

In an old pedigree in an ever . . . . . present hand states Edward Burton to have married a daughter of Henry Grey, Esq.

Thomas Grey, Marquis of Dorset, was among the noblemen who accompanied Henry VIII. in 1520 in his famous interview with Francis I. (See *Gent. Mag.*, 1777; Harl. MSS. 642, p. 169).

[*In another hand*]. If the suggestion of this antiquary be correct, that before the Burtons became possessed of Longnor they were seated at "Burton in the same county," it seems probable that they lived at what is now called Boreton, in the parish of Condover, as there is no doubt of this place being in their possession, and so late as 1615, Edward Burton sold Burton manor and Cantlop to Sir Roger Owen of Condover. We find (MS. at Sundorn) Walter de Burton witness to a deed 10 Edw. II. (1317), for conveying messuage and lands in Cantilop.

Edmund de Burghton (MS. at Condover) has a grant of Cantilhop from his wife's brother, William son of Hugh de la Hulle 36 Ed. III. (1363).

Hugh de Burton (MS. at Sundorn) is mentioned in deed without date, witnessed by Hugh de Wlonkeslow, and John de Burton is mentioned as son of Hugh in the above deed. Halwell, in the Hundred of Clifton, three miles from Hitchen, Herts, on the attainder of Sir Robert Belknup, J.C.P., in 1392 was granted to John Burton and others. (Lyson's *Magna Brit.*, Bed-

fordshire, v. i., p. 95). This seems to be a Shropshire Burton, as it passed immediately afterwards to the Foresters and Baldwin Leighton, Esq., who in 1765 sold it.

William Burton was M.P. for Shrewsbury 2 Rich. II., 1379 (Owen's *Hist. Shrewsbury*), Richard de Beorton, Do. 4 Rich. II., 1381, Wm. Burton Do. 6, 7, and 8 Rich. II., and Wm. Burton ditto 14 and 20 Hen. VI., 1436-1442.

The Heralds have given in their pedigrees to this Robert, whom they, without any authority that I have seen, call Sir Robert, a father Sir Edward, whom they style of Longner, and whom they state to have been with King Edward IV. successful in fourteen set battles, and to have been made knight banneret under the royal standard in the field A.D. 1460, and this account is adopted as authentic by the learned editor of Antoninus, William Burton, a descendant of this family, if indeed it has not been borrowed from what he writes in that work.

But, besides that it would be very difficult, I believe, to point out 14 set battles in which that prince was engaged, it must be utterly incredible to anyone who will peruse the grant above referred to, that, if there had been any foundation for such a story, the king of arms in 1478, anxious as he evidently is to exalt the character of Robert Burton, and to display his just pretensions to that distinction, would have omitted all mention of his illustrious father, graced with the rare title of knight banneret, and whose memory, even if he died in the year of his creation, could not have been effaced by the lapse of 18 years.

In a valuable MS. of grants in the reigns of Edw. V. and Rich. III. (Harl. MSS. 433, p. 38b) is this entry in the first year of the last-mentioned king:—"To Edward Burton the king hath confirmed such graunte as he had from the fee of the Corone of king E. the iiijth for terme of his lyff."

As Robert Burton was already, five years before this grant, of mature years, and the acquirer of armorial distinction, the Edward Burton of the above grant was, I suppose, his son, of whom below. In the same MS., p. 46b, is a grant from Richard III. to Robert Burton of estates in Yorkshire, but I have no proof of his identity with the probable possessor of Longner.

Robert Burton then I conceive to have been the first of his family settled at this place,[1] and even for this I have no distinct evidence; but from an abstract of the deeds of the family drawn up by Thomas Burton, an eminent lawyer in the latter end of the 17th century, I learn that Edward Burton, the son of Robert, was certainly possessed of it, and conveyed it to Geoffrey, Bishop of Lichfield, John Bretenor, and others, as trustees for certain purposes. No date is assigned to this transaction, which must have taken place between 1503, when Geoffrey Blythe, Dean of York, was appointed to the See of Lichfield, and 1524, the date of Edward Burton's death. The Heralds have also chosen to dignify this gentleman with the order of knighthood, and to entitle him of *Rhodes*, of the *rolls*, or of the *robes* to King Henry VII. It is probable that he might be an officer in the wardrobe of that monarch, but that he was a knight of Rhodes or any knight at all is effectually disproved by his epitaph still to be seen in Atcham Church, to which it was removed from St. Chad's on the fall of that edifice, and which runs thus:—

Hic jacent corpora Edwardi Burton & Jocose uxoris ejus: qui quidem Edward' obiit in festo S'c'i Georgii xxiii die aprilis anno d'ni MCCCCCXXIIII & p'dicta Jocosa obiit . . die mensis . . anno d'ni M^{ill}cccc . . . Quorum a'i'abz, &c.

Here we see he is mentioned without any addition of dignity, and he is dressed in a gown with long sleeves,

[1] [This is a mistake, as Edward Burton was living at Longner in 1346. See footnote 2 on page 384 ante.—Ed.]

instead of the helmet and plate armour in which he would have been represented as a knight, and his true rank is further evinced by the following extract from the ancient chronicle of Shrewsbury, entitled Taylor's MS. :—"This year, 1524, and the xxiijth of April dyscessyd *Master Edward Burtoon, gentilman,* & lyethe in S^{t} Chadds churche within S^{t} Gorgy's chappell there."[1]

Mr. Burton was, however, evidently a person of consequence in his county, and in a pleading in the entries of Lord Coke (173) occurs as a feoffee of Edward Banastre of Hadnall, in the time of Henry VII., by the title of Edward Burton, Esquire, with Robert Suny and Henry Eyton, to all of whom he appears to have been related by marriage, and he is mentioned with the same addition in a deed of Sir Edward Smythe's in the 7th of Henry VIII.

The interesting, and somewhat romantic history of the death of his grandson and namesake, a favourer of the principles of the reformation in the days of Queen Mary, appears not to have been known to John Fox the martyrologist, the diligent collector of such anecdotes, but was traditionally preserved in the family, and is related by his descendant, the commentator on Antoninus's *Itinerary.*

His known attachment to the "new religion," as it was then called, had exposed him to much danger during that time of fierce persecution, and the expedients which he adopted to avoid the pursuit of his enemies would, doubtless, afford matter for a curious and entertaining relation: but they are coldly dismissed by the commentator, under the general expressions of the "many waies and courses he took for his safety, and to evade the hands of such as lay in wait for him, too long to be told here."

[1] This is the only notice I have seen of a Chapel of St. George in the Church of St. Chad. I suspect, therefore, that it has arisen from a mistake of the chronicler derived from the mention in Mr. Burton's epitaph of the festival of St. George. [This tomb of Edward Burton and Joyce is engraved in Owen and Blakeway's *History*, ii., 231.— Ed.]

The anxiety of the whole nation during the progress of that disease which carried off Queen Mary may be easily conceived. Her dislike of her sister's person and religion, and the danger to which the princess was exposed during that reign, wrought the hopes and fears of both Papists and Protestants to the highest pitch, and these feelings, in the case of Mr. Burton, must have been still more excited by a sense of his own personal hazard. It is no wonder, therefore, that "sitting one day alone in his upper parlour at Longner, in meditation of God's deliverances of his people, and hearing a general ring of all the bells in Shrewsbury, "his *right divining soul* should *straightway tell him it was for Queen Marie's death.*" It was natural that he should "*long to know the truth more earnestly,*" and equally so, that he should be "*loath to trust his servants*" to make the inquiry. Under these circumstances he called his eldest son Thomas, then a boy of 16 years, and despatched him to the town on horseback. The road from the stables at Longner down to the river (through which, when it is fordable, lies their nearest horse-way to Shrewsbury) ran in the front of the old house, and was commanded by the windows of the upper parlour, in which Mr. Burton was sitting. In order, therefore, to abridge as much as possible the anxious interval of suspense, he directed his son to throw up his hat when he came within sight of those windows, in case he returned with the hoped for intelligence, as a token that the queen was actually dead. The youth set off, and it is surely needless to picture the conflict of passions in the father's breast during his absence. He returned, he made the desired signal. But what must have been his feelings, when, upon hurrying into the apartment to congratulate his father upon his deliverance, he found him just breathing his last! The tumult of the mind had overpowered the body. On receiving the signal "the good man retiring presently from the window, and recovering his chair, for extremity of joy which he conceived for the deliverance of the saints of

God, he suddenly expired, and this was his Nunc dimittis Domine!"

Their next care was to inter his remains. What passed at his funeral I shall give in the words of Fox, in which the candid reader will make some allowance for the warmth of the writer, and of the age in which, and the views with which, he wrote:—

The like example of charitable affection in these catholicke churchmen is also to be sene and noted in the burying of one Mauster Edward Bourton, Esquier, who, in the same diocese of Chester, departyng out of this world the very day before queene Elizabeth was crowned,[1] required of his frendes as they would aunswere for it that his body should be buryed in his parish church (whiche was S. Chaddes in Shrousbury) so that no massemonger shoulde be present thereat; which thing being declared to the Curate of that Parish, named Sir John Marshall, and the body beyng withall brought to the buriall[2]

[1] This seems very precise, and yet we must either condemn it as inaccurate, or abandon the traditional account of Mr. Burton's death, which one would be loath to do, as fictitious. Queen Mary died on the 17th of November, Queen Elizabeth was crowned on the 15th of January. It is utterly incredible that the news of the former event should be two months in travelling from London to Shrewsbury. But there is too much reason to fear from the tenour of Mr. Burton's will, that we must have recourse to the latter expedient, and reject the interesting relation of his descendant. As this stedfast Protestant died, according to that narrative, very suddenly, his will must have been executed at least some days previous to his decease; yet it has evidently been drawn up under a Protestant Sovereign, i.e., after the accession of Elizabeth, for no man in his senses, under the government of Queen Mary, would direct himself to be buried in his parish church, so as no mass-monger should be present at his funeral. Indeed, it must be confessed that Fox's ignorance of the remarkable facts attending this gentleman's death casts a great shade of suspicion upon the whole story.

[2] After all the body was *not* "brought to the buriall." For thus Fox in the errata prefixed to his work, page 1621, col. 1, line 6:— "Whereas it is mentioned of Maister Edward Bourton, Esquier, that he was brought to the church and there denyed Christian buriall: understand (gentle reader) that he was not brought to the place of burial, but only a messenger, whose name is John Tarperley, was sent to know whether he should be buried in Christian burial or not, which being denyed hym, he was thereupon buried in his owne garden, as is declared in the page above mentioned." It is impossible not to observe the very reluctant, and somewhat disingenuous terms in which this retraction is couched.

upon the same day that the Queene was crowned, the Curate being therewith offended sayd playnly that he should not be buried in the church there. Whereunto one of his frendes, named George Torpelley,[1] annsweryng agayne, sayd that God would judge him in the last day, etc. Then the Priest, "Judge God," sayth he, "or Devill, the body shall not come here;" and so they buried him in his owne garden, where he is, no doubt, as neare the kingdome of heaven as if he had bene buried in the middest of the Church."

His descendant's remark upon this transaction follows:—"The storm of persecution was not quite so blown over thereby" (either by Elizabeth's accession or Mr. Burton's sudden death, for it is difficult to say which is meant), "but that still some scatterings did fall upon the servants of God, for they suffered some grievances still, among which was their being debarred from Christian interment in Churches."

The commentator on Antoninus lived in "evil days" during the reign of Puritanism, when Popery was to be painted as black as possible. Our lot is fallen on an age of more liberality, when, without being involved, I trust, in her errors, we can allow her a fair hearing. It is evident from the words of the martyrologist, which are, doubtless, not designedly favourable to the Church of Rome, that Mr. Marshall could not, without a glaring desertion of his principles, have interred the body in his church under the limitations prescribed by the deceased. Could a clergyman of our present establishment give sepulture to a Dissenter who stipulated, and

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[1] George Torpelley was probably the informant of Fox. He appears to have been a zealous Protestant of those times, and is referred to by the martyrologist as one of his authorities for the "godly end" of William Glover, who was denied Christian burial by the curate of Wem for his attachment to the cause of reformation. Fox, 1620. Torperley afterwards came to live in Shrewsbury, and seems to have been a very busy fellow and warm Puritan. In the Burghley papers, now in the British Museum, is a curious account by him and one Thomas Browne of certain supposed misconduct of a Mr. William Gerard, one of the counsel of the Marches of Wales.

that in terms of opprobrious contempt, that the service of the Liturgy should not be pronounced over his remains? Nor can we justly withhold the praise of firmness from the curate of St. Chad, who dared to vindicate the rights of his expiring Church, at the moment of her dissolution.

Mr. Burton found sepulture, as we have seen, in his garden near the fishponds, and his remains lay for the space of 56 years with no other memorial on the monument set over them, but his name and the year of his decease, and even these were become illegible by the lapse of so many years, and the effect of the weather. At the end of that time, Sir Andrew Corbet, Lord-Lieutenant of Shropshire (my author styles him baronet, but he never bore that title) happening to dine at Longner with divers other gentlemen of quality, asked leave of his host, the grandson of the deceased, to visit the tomb of his ancestor. The state of decay in which it lay drew from him a gentle rebuke or "friendly correction," as the original quaintly expresses it, together with a serious injunction for its reparation, and not long after he produced the following copy of verses, now painted upon the monument, which are creditable to the talents of a Shropshire gentleman of the 17th century, though a leading idea in them proceeds upon the same misconception of the circumstances under which the interment took place, which has been already remarked in the antiquary's reflections on the same transaction.

Was 't for denying Christ, or some notorious fact,
That this man's body Christian burial lack'd?
Oh no! not so, his faithful true profession
Was the chief cause, which then was held transgression;
When Popery here did reign, the See of Rome
Would not admit to any such a tomb,
Within her idol temple walls; but he
Truly professing Christianity,
Was like Christ Jesus in a garden laid,
Where he shall rest in peace till it be said—

Come faithful servant, come, receive with Me
A just reward for thy integrity.—1614.[1]

From a younger son of Thomas Burton, the eldest son of Edward, is descended the noble family of the Earls of Conyngham in Ireland. That kingdom, under the reigns of Elizabeth and James, presented a rich field of enterprise for young men of spirit and ambition. Among the adventurers who went to seek their fortunes there was Captain Thomas Burton, the younger son above mentioned. Here he chanced to form an intimacy with his countryman Francis Sheppard of Balcot in the parish of Munslow in Corvedale, who having courted a young lady in that neighbourhood, had the misfortune to kill his rival, Richard More, only son of Jasper More, Esq., of Larden, in a duel, in consequence of which he had fled into Ireland, rose to be an officer in the English army, and got a great estate from the Irish rebels. Captain Burton, whose sister Anne had married Mr. Charles More of Millichop, was probably acquainted with Mr. Sheppard before the fatal adventure which compelled him to leave his native country; and the latter finding his end draw near, made a will by which he devised his estate to his sister Anne Sheppard, and constituted his friend the captain executor, who hastening over to England, and repairing to Millichope, took an opportunity of engaging the affections of the young heiress, and having succeeded in obtaining her hand in marriage, produced her brother's will, and prevailed upon her to accompany him into Ireland, to settle upon her recent acquisitions. Such is the account in a paper at Millichop, drawn up by Mr. Henry More of that place, great nephew of Captain Burton. And from

[1] [In 1812, the tomb, having become very much dilapidated, was taken down and every stone replaced in its original position by Mr. Robert Burton of Longner. About 2½ or 3 feet below the ground, the bones were found, but no trace of any coffin. They were at once covered up again, and the tomb rebuilt. See S. A. *Transactions*, v., 298.—Ed.]

this marriage are descended the Burtons of Ireland, who have spread into a variety of opulent and prolific branches, though the memory of the seat of their maternal ancestry in Corvedale has been so far effaced in the course of two generations, that in the family pedigree deposited in the Ulster office at Dublin, the wife of their progenitor is said to come from "Baycot, about the Cordalls in Herefordshire."

Another descendant of Edward Burton who was buried in his garden, was William Burton, the very learned commentator on Antoninus, who has been already so often quoted. His father, of the same names (second son of Thomas Burton, Esquire, of Longner), was entered of Shrewsbury School in 1584, and is styled a citizen of London by Antony Wood, but was resident at Atcham, and denominated a *plebeian* in 1624, when his son, of whom I am now to speak, was admitted of Queen's College, Oxford, by which designation is only meant that the son was entered as a servitor: a station which those days of comparative simplicity did not regard as discreditable to the son of a younger brother of the first families. William Burton the younger was born in London in or about the year 1608, being of the age of 16 at his admission at Queen's College, where he applied himself with great diligence and equal success to his studies. Logic and Philosophy were the favourite pursuits of that College, but Burton's inclination lay more to Philology and Classical Literature, to which he devoted his nights and days, and in which he attained that proficiency as to be appointed Greek professor in Gloucester Hall at the early age of 23. We have his inaugural lecture on the history of the Greek language on his entrance upon that office, printed at London in 12mo, 1657. It is inscribed to his pupil Thomas Thynne, the first Viscount Weymouth,[1] and it is prefaced by a

[1] This gentleman, the Thomas Thynne, Esq., of Longleate, obtained possession of the papers he left behind him, and they are probably still remaining in the library there.

Latin epistle from his friend, the celebrated Dr. Langbaine, in which the writer reminds his correspondent of the years of study they had passed within the walls of the college from which his letter is dated, and of which Langbaine was now master. Mr. Burton, being compelled to quit college by his necessities, became usher to that famous schoolmaster, Thomas Farnaby, but was afterwards elected to the free Grammar School of Kingston-upon-Thames, which he appears to have retained till his death, though he retired to London two years before that event. At the end of his inaugural lecture mentioned above is a curious little tract, the remains of the ancient Persian language, as they occur in the classical authors, arranged alphabetically, and inscribed to a Shropshire worthy, "the most learned youth Thomas Hide, the very diligent restorer of the Persian Pentateuch." But Mr. Burton's most considerable work was his commentary on the British part of Antoninus's Itinerary, printed at London in a thin folio, 1658, and dedicated to the Right Honourable John, Lord Glyn, Lord Chief Justice of the Court of Upper Bench, whom he thanks for "the particular favours conferred on himself, and those bestowed on his near relations." To this work, which displays great research and very general reading, and in which he ranks himself among those who have endeavoured, in many instances with great probability, to deduce the origin of our laws and government from the polity and jurisprudence of the Romans, is prefixed his portrait by Hollar, in which he appears of a comely and grave aspect, with small whiskers and a peaked beard, falling band and tufted gown. He died the 28th of December, 1657, and as his book bears no appearance of a posthumous work, it must have been printed off before his demise, though the booksellers have, according to their usual practice, affixed the date of the succeeding year. Wood mentions his daughter Appollonia, the wife of one Calverley of Pewter Street, in Westminster.

In 1635 and 1640 appeared a splendid folio printed & (*sic*) Cassel, and entitled "Monumentum Sepulchrale illustrissimi ac celsissimi principis &c. Mauritii Hessiæ Langravii," prefixed to which are various verses in honour of the deceased landgrave. One of these is subscribed Guil. Burtonus, Londinensis, LL. L.F. Oxon. Dobunerum ex Aula Glocestrensi. The landgrave died in 1632, and Mr. Burton's verses were, in all probability, written in the following year (while he was yet a resident in the University), and that by the request of John Rous, the librarian (to whom Milton has a poem), and who prefaces the verses with an assertion, Qui hic officisse lachrymas intermiscuere non Principem tantum sed maximum Ducem, Theologum, Philosophum, Politicum, Mathematicum, Poetam, lugent. Such is fame! or such is praise! Who ever before heard of this great landgrave, who added to his exalted rank such consummate skill in so many and so various departments of science.

Monumentum sepulcrale ad—du Mauritii Hassiæ Landgravii Principis—memoriam gloriæ sempiternam exercitum—cassellis 1640

Mansolii Mauritiani Pars altera
Cassellis anno M.D.C.XXXV.

V'ginti academiarum et scholarum Mustrium tam intra quam extra Rom. Imp. necnon variarum ecclesiarum antistitum: nobilium ibidem et aliorum clarissimorum Virorum *Epicedia* quibus communis sui Magnatis et Nutritii quondam illustrissimi, celcissimi principis ac domini, du Mauritii Hass. Landg. Comitis in Catyenelubogen, Diety, Yigenhain, Nidda, &c. Obitum acerbis lachrymis acerbe deplorant.

Cassellis apud Johannem Saurium, Acad-Typographum.
anno M.D.C.XXXV.

Epicedia Anglorum, p. 133.
Guil. Burtonus, Londinensis LL.L.F. Oxon.
Dobunorum ex Aula Glocestrensi.

Sequuntur orationes et carmina in obitus quondam illustricissimorum & florentissimorum Principum Du Othonis, Du Mauritii, Du Philippi, Du Philippi junioris, Du Mauritii senioris, magni illius Mauritii Hassiae Landgravii, filiorum desideratissimorum &c. &c. Cassellis M.D.C.XXXV.

The first part contains about 60 prints, some of which are more than two feet in length, and I suppose that must have delayed the publication of that part of the work till 1640.

Malden, near Kingston, Surrey,
June 14, 1817.

Dear Sir,

I send you a copy of the Annals of Coinage, for which you have favoured me with your name. As I have no Banker in London you will have the goodness to remit your subscription to me at this place.

All I have yet been able to collect respecting William Burton is the following:—

1637. Mr. William Burton appointed at Midsummer.

1658. Mr. Cooke.

Manning and Bray's *Hist. of Surrey*, vol. i., p. 358, from the book in which the account is kept of the revenues of the School. A note to Mr. Burton's name gives some account of him from *Wood. Ath. Oxon*, vol. ii., p. 215. The present Master of the School knows nothing beyond the above; but I have set an intelligent and indefatigable friend who is intimate with some of the Corporation, to search for further information. Should any such occur, it shall be sent to you immediately.

I remain, dear Sir,
Yr obliged & very humble Sert
Roger Ruding.

Rev. J. B. Blakeway, Shrewsbury.

Account of Wm. Burton, Schoolmaster of Kingston, extracted from Manning and Bray's *History of Surrey*, p. 358.

Wm. Burton, Schoolmaster of Kingston, was the son of Wm. Burton of Atcham, Shropshire, educated at Queen's College, Oxford, 1625, under the patronage of Mr. Allen, who removed him to Glocester Hall, and conferred upon him the Greek lecture. In 1630 he took the degree of B.C.L., but poverty compelled him to leave the University, and become asisstant to Mr. Farnabie, the famous schoolmaster at Seven-

oaks, in Kent, and after some years he was elected Master of Kingston Free School, whence after being struck with the palsy, he retired to London, and there died two years after. He published a Latin panegyric on Mr. Allen spoken in Glocester Hall over the body. Annotations on the 1st Epistle of Clement to the Corinthians, translated into English, 1647 and 1652; "Græcæ Linguæ Historia," 1657, being the substance of various speeches at Glocester Hall; and with it "Veteris Linguæ Persicæ Historia, 1657," and a commendatory letter of Langbaine's, prefixed. "A Commentary on Antoninus's Itinerary," so far as it concerneth Britain.

He died 28 Dec., 1657, and was buried the same day in the vault belonging to the Clements, now in St. Clement Danes. His collections came into the hands of his scholar, Thos. Thynne, Esq., afterwards Visct. Weymouth.

Wood. Athen. Ox., ii., 215.

There is also an account of Wm. Burton in Knight's *Life of Colet*, p. 402, which refers to Wood's *Athenæ*, vol. ii., p. 215, and is perhaps wholly taken from it. He was educated at St. Paul's, under Alexander Gill, sen., and became a student at Queen's College, Oxon., in Easter term 1625, aged 16, being accounted a good Grecian.

Dear Sir,

The above is the best account I have been able to collect respecting Mr. Burton, and which probably your friend has already attained. The Company of Mercers, London, are patrons of St. Paul's School; but I have known similar researches rejected at the Clerk's Office of that Company, and consequently have not ventured on an application. I have applied to a daughter of Mr. Laurentz, a late Head-master of Kingston School, and she informs me all the documents respecting that school are in the custody of the Corporation of that town. It is very probable Manning and Bray perused these Records and extracted from them the above account of Burton. The Company of Merchant Adventurers (now denominated the Hamburgh Company) was incorporated by Edw. I., anno 1296, being the first Incorporation of Merchants erected in England. Their original name is now in disuse. Kingston is 12 miles from London. I have not forgot to make your remembrance to Mr. France. There is no occasion to

apologize for any application to me, as nothing will give me greater pleasure than to convince you how truly

I am yours

JOHN PRIDDEN.

100, Fleet Street,
27 Feb., 1817.

In the civil wars of Charles I. Longner did not escape without its share of the distresses which at that time affected the whole country. Its commanding situation upon the Severn rendered it too conspicuous to be neglected as an out-post, and it was at an early period of the war garrisoned with a party of Royalists from Shrewsbury. Though the number of soldiers stationed here appears to have been inconsiderable, we may readily conceive that they must have been a great annoyance to the owner, or that he was anxious for their removal. This he at length effected, their presence being required elsewhere, on his undertaking to defend his house against the Parliamentary forces, at his own charge. The following extract from the minutes of the Corporation of Shrewsbury refers to this transaction :—

18 Dec., 1643. Ag. upon y^e^ promise of Fra. Burton, Esq., of Longner, that he will mayntayne 8 musketeers to keepe the garrison there, that, if the Governor thinke fitt, then to remove y^e^ garrison from Longner to Monford bridge for defence of y^e^ bridge.

After the surprise of Shrewsbury in the beginning of the year 1645, Longner could not be long in following the example of the county town. The committee of Shropshire was indefatigable in reducing the whole country entrusted to them, to the power of the Parliament; and in the newspaper entitled *Perfect Occurences*, of July 25, 1645, in the list of garrisons "taken in" by them from the king, in the course of the summer, mention is made of "Athan bridge and Longnar house," meaning, no doubt, Atcham bridge and this place.

Thomas Burton, Esquire, the son and heir of the last mentioned Francis, was a lawyer of distinguished eminence in the latter part of the 17th century. He

was admitted a member of Gray's Inn the 3rd of May, 1651, and appears to have been as much attached to a reformation in the state in the reign of Charles II., as his ancestor was to one in the Church in that of Queen Mary. At least, the deposition of one Robert Smith, a Scottish covenanter, printed in the appendix to Dr. Spratts' *Narrative of the Rye-house Plot*, p. 180, which states him to have taken refuge in England after the affair of Rothwell Bridge, goes on, "where I continued three years, and was at many Presbyterian house-conventicles in Shrewsbury, Birmingham, and Bristol; but never see a field-conventicle in this kingdom, save one at Clee-hill (some few miles distant from Ludlow) upon Sunday in May, 1681, where we met to the number of upward of a thousand, and some of note were among them. But I do only remember the names of Mr. Burton, a lawyer, whose country residence is in Shropshire, and . . . . a merchant in Birmingham, besides the two ministers who preached, whose names are Mr. Thomas Eaglesall, who lived in Kinver, and Mr. Thomas Case, who lived near Shrewsbury, and their sermons were wholly tending to raise faction and sedition, in the same manner as I have too frequently heard in the field-conventicles in Scotland."

Mr. Burton was certainly a gentleman of Whig principles since he was instituted by King William a judge for . . . . . in Wales, and it is said that he sat on the commission for trying Captain Benbow after the fatal battle of Worcester in 1651.

The male issue of the elder branch of the Burtons failing in the year 1735, the Longner estate devolved upon Anne, the sole heiress of that branch, the wife of Thomas Lingen, Esq., of Radbrook, in the county of Gloucester, a gentleman of a very ancient family and great estate, as he is styled in the *Biographia Britannica* (art. Willis), whose eldest son, Robert Lingen, assumed the name and arms of Burton only, by Act of Parliament, in pursuance of the will of his great-uncle, Thomas Burton, Esq., the last heir male.

The family of Lingen was of the earliest antiquity and good consideration in the county of Hereford, but an authentic pedigree of their remote descents is out of desideration in these pursuits. I shall deliver nothing as certain which I have not found to be so. It is probable that they are derived from Turstin de Wigmore,[1] who when *Domesday* was compiled held Lingen (there written Lingham, and included within Shropshire) Sirelei and Hantonetun under Ralph de Mortimer, and Melela (Mawley, near Cleobury), from Earl William, i.e., William fitz Osbern, Earl of Hereford, and as many Norman adventurers, after the successful expedition of the sons of Tancred, pushed their footing in both the Sicilies, it is not unlikely that the Count of Andria, of whom we read in a contemporary historian, may have been one of his descendants. "Nec Willielmo regi Apuliae (says the Norman

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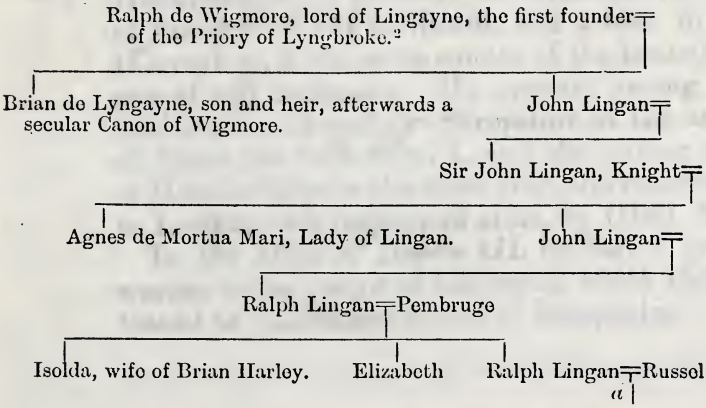
[1] Turstin of Wigmore married Agnes, daughter of Alured de Merleberge (Domesday of Hampshire). It was by this marriage that Turstin got Cowarne, and as the Pauncefotes afterwards held it, it probably passed to them in like manner by marriage. Constantia, daughter of Sir John de Lingayne, married Grimbald, son and heir of Sir Richard Pancefote, in 1253. The marriage articles are dated Thursday after St. James (Duncomb's *Herefordshire* ii., 97). See there the extraordinary account of her conjugal affection in cutting off her left hand to rescue her husband from captivity. It is remarkable, however, that none of them appear on the list of Herefordshire sheriffs before John Lingein, Esq., 6 Edw. IV., who occurs again six years later as John Lingein, Knight. John Lingein without any addition was sheriff 2 Hen. VII., and John Lingein, Knight, 11 Henry VII. John Lingen, junior, Knight, 21 Hen. VII. John Lingen, Knight (without the addition of junior) 8 and 12 Hen. VIII. Thomas Lingen, Knight, 20 Hen. VIII. John Leingein, Esq., 36 Hen. VIII. Edward Leingein, Esq., 18 Jac. I., Henry Lingein, Esq., 13 Car. I.

In the list of Herefordshire gentry 1433, I find only Philip Lyngeyn, as taking the oaths to Henry VI. The attachment of the head of the family to the white rose prevented, I suppose, his name from appearing. Mr. Duncomb (ii., 150) quotes from *Domesday*, "Agnes relicti Turstini Flandrensis & Eustacius Miles, filius ejus, dominus de Whiteney, dederunt ecclesiæ S^ci^ Petri Gloucestr' unam hidam in Pencumb." He adds that the family of Whitney descended from this Eustace. The above does not sound to me like the style of *Domesday*.

Chronicle, edited by Du Chesne, sub. ann. 1154) bellum deficit, nam Robertus comes de Bassevilla, qui erat cognatus ejus, et *Richardus de Lingen* comes Andriæ putantes regem mortuum, per regnum Apuliae graviter debacchati sunt." For there is no probability that this Calabrian earl was a native of the town of his name in the principality of Munster. Our English Lingen[1] is a small village seated in a sequestered valley in the north-western corner of Herefordshire—that part of the county anciently denominated Wigmoreland—a few miles distant from Wigmore, Pembridge, and Aymestrey. The keep and moat of its little castle are still discernable, but all traces of the building have long since utterly disappeared.

In a good Harleian MS. (1087) is an ancient pedigree of this family, and in another (6821) are some notices of several members of it, as they had occurred in the researches of the collector "non linialiter sed secundum reperta in diversis memorandis." I shall transcribe the former, corrected in some few instances by the latter.



[1] It is worth mentioning, for the singularity of the thing, that there is an island of this name in the Indian seas. There is a county called Lingen in the circle of Westphalia. It is surrounded by the Bishoprics of Munster and Osnaburg.

[2] Leland says the Priory of Lingbroke was founded by some of the Mortimers.

a

Etheldreda | Matilda, wife of Robert Devereux. | Margery | Sir John de Lingan Knight, ob. 1506. = Burgh

Elizabeth, Lady of Lingan | Sir John, ob. 1530.

Ralph de Lingayne witnesses a grant of lands without date to Roger de Mortimer, who died in the 17th of John (*Lib. Nig.* de Wigmore; Harl. MS. 1240). A person of these names also occurs in the same book in 1284.

John appears to have been a very favourite name in this family, and there must have been three who bore it in succession, as "*Sir John de Lingayne, the third, Lord of Lingayne,*" occurs in the Harl. MS. last quoted.

In the *Testa de Nevill*, compiled chiefly in the reign of Henry III., and the Herefordshire part of it in his 27th year, John de Lingaine is stated to hold half a fee in Lingaine, in the county of Salop,[1] of the barony of R. (Ralph) de Mortimer, half a hide in Kenescestr, in Herefordshire, of Lantony, in Gloucester, of the honour of Snodhill of old feoffment, and a hide in Kovenhop (Konenhop) in the same county of the honour of Wiggemor of old feoffment. He appears among those who hold lands and rents in Shropshire of the annual value of £20 in the 25th Edw. I., and also among the knights of Herefordshire in the same year, and received summons to London with horses and arms, &c. (Harl. MSS. 1192).

In the 40th of Henry III. he had a grant of free warren in his manor of Lingeyne, which then still continued to be deemed a part of Shropshire.

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[1] Qu.? Is there not some error in placing Lingain in *Shropshire*, as this entry occurs under Lingain in Wigmore Hund., Co. Hereford? If further particulars of the Lingain family will be useful I can give them from Blount's MS.—W. H.

On the first page of his MS. the learned author has written, "I began this work in August, 1675."

Ex ipso Autographo sub magno sigillo penes Robertu' Dobins, Arm.'

Henricus [3] Rex. Sciatis nos concessisse & hac carta nostra confirmasse dilecto & fideli nostro Johanni de Lingeyne quod ipse et heredes sui imperpetuum habeant liberam Warennam in omnibus dominicis terris suis *Manerii sui de Lingeyne in Com' Salop'*. Et in omnibus dominicis terris suis Maneriorum suorum de Adelmondestrot, Comenhop, Schirlith et Kenescestr in Com' Hereford'. Dum tamen terræ illæ non sint infra metas forestarum nostrarum. Ita quod nullus intret terras illas ad fugandum in eis vel ad aliquid capiendum quod ad Warennam pertineat sine licentia et voluntate ipsius Johannis vel hered' suorum super forisfacturam nostram decem librarum. Quare volumnus &c. Hiis testibus, Venerabilibus patribus, W. Bathon' et Wellen. Episcopo et A. Winton, Clerico, Johanne filio Galfridi Justiciarii Hiberniæ, Johanni Haunsell preposito Beverlaci, Will'o de Grey, Barth. Pecch, Patricio de Chaworth E. de Bavai . . . . Nicholao de S^to^ Mauro, Radulpho de Bakepuz, Will'o de Sancto Ermino, Will'o Bougner et aliis. Dat. per manum nostram apud Winton' vicesimo octavo die Decembris, Anno regni nostri quadragesimo.

[From Blount's MS. Collections for Herefordshire, penes William Blount, M.D., Hereford, May 13, 1808.]

He appears among those who held lands and rents in this county of the annual value of £20 in the 25th Edw. I., and also among the knights of Herefordshire in the same year, and received summons to London with horses and arms; and that he was dignified with the honour of knighthood is certain from the Black Book of Wigmore, already quoted, in which he occurs with that title as a witness to various charters of Roger de Mortimer in the 7th, 10th, and 12th of Edw. II.

Assises held at Salop 20 Edw. I. (A° 1292). Ralph de Lengeyne was found to have taken from the vill of Huntydon 18^d^ for Streteward and Motfee. (Lloyd's Collections for *Hist. of Shropshire*, voce Chelmarsh, p. 204).

9 Edw. II. Richard de Lingen and Margaret de Mortimer held Stirch and Leinton, in Hereford Hundred.

Ralph de Lingen, Knight, occurs in the same [Blount's] MS., and in the same quality in the 49th

Edward III., and I take him to be the same who is stated (though without the addition of knight) to hold Couenhope in the 22nd Richard II., and who, by the name of Ralph Lingen of Wigmore, married Margery, daughter of Fulke de Penbruge of Tonge Castle, in Shropshire, and had issue by her, Isabel Lingen, successively the wife of Sir Fulke Penbruge of the same castle, Sir Thomas Peytevine, and Sir John Ludlow, knights, and foundress in 1411 of the College of Tonge. It is from these frequent inter-marriages with the family of Pembruge that I derive the arms of Lingen, for armorial bearings were by no means fully established in this country as late as the middle of the 15th century, many persons of ancient family and fortune not having then assumed them; and Mr. Selden quotes an example under the reign of Edward III. of an esquire of Buckinghamshire, who, being interrogated whether he were a gentleman and had arms, or no, deposes upon oath that he was a gentleman of birth and had land of 20 marks yearly by descent, "and has not used to travail in war, nor his father before him, wherefore he has never sought to learn what his arms are." (Selden Tit. Hon., pt. 2, Ch. 5, sec. 47).

This was certainly the case in the 19th of Edward III. with the family now under consideration, for in a deed dated Sunday after the Feast of the Translation of St. Thomas the Martyr in that year, whereby John de Lyngeyne grants a piece of land in Homene Castel in fee to one Roger Ynggon, he seals with nothing but a sprig, a proof that he had then no hereditary coat armour. At a later period, and, as I suspect after the estates of Mortimer had passed to the house of York, and the white rose was become the badge of that family, the Lingens assumed for their arms, barry or. and az., a bend charged with 3 white roses surmounting 2 bars, a coat evidently derived from that of Pembruge, the bend and bars without the charge which I find appendant to a deed of Henry de Pennebrugge, Knight, in 31 Edw. I., as that in its turn was borrowed from the arms

of Harcourt, the bars without the bend, by a coheiress of which family Tonge Castle passed into that of Pembruge in the second year of that king's reign.

Ralph de Lingen, Knight, mentioned above, was father, I presume, of Ralph Lyngeyn, Knight, who in the 21st of Henry VI, 1442, occurs as a trustee with Humphrey Cotes *(inter cartas Joh. Cotes de Woodcotz ar.)*, and who was dead in the 38th of the same king, 1459 *(Ibid)*. In his will, which bears date December 18th, 1452, he styles himself of Stoke, and from him the pedigree descends in a certain and uninterrupted succession.

(Aycough's Index 112, B. 13).

Indorsed: given by Mr. James Hill 30 March, 1719.

Indorsed: A Wyll of Raphe Lingeyn a° d^ni^ m.cccc.lii. Dat p' copia' Registri. In the name of God . . . llmyghty Jhu' . . . . . S^r^ Rau . . e lyngayne yn clere and holie mynde the xviii day of Decembr' the yer of our lorde m^l^ccccli make my testament orde . . . nte & wyll . . o . . . co of . . y londys as of my goodys yn the forme that folwyth, that ys to wete fyrste y bequethe my sowle to God my body to be buryed yn suche place as my wyfe my sone John Hugh Schelwyke & the p'son of Seynt Nicholas Sutton whom y make myn executores lyketh be . . te & . . weyneth for. It. y wyll that aboue my burynge dirige ac masse be dyspondyt money clothynge & vytayle for poure men' wyth lyghte about my sepulte' after the dysposycyon of my sayde executores to despose & ordeyne as them semyth best And over thys, theras John Barre knyght & other ben enfeffed yn dyu'se man'es londys & teneme'ts as hyt ys conteyned yn a dede ther of made by me to them to have & holde to them and (*sic*) and to ther eyres for ou', more y wylne desyre, and prey the sayde feffees that they make estate of the maner of Sutton ou' court wyth the appten'nce with other londys & tenementys called Gerionyffe wyth the appten'nce yn Sutton yn the schyr of Hereford to Jane my wyfe to have & to holde to hir for t'me of hir lyfe the remeyndr therof to the sayde John my sone to have to hym & to hys eyres for ou' mor'. Also y wylne ordeyn & prey seyde feoffees of all other londys & ten^n^tes to kepe them stylle in ther handes & that my dettes may be payed of the furst yssues p'ftes and ther of comynge p'vyded alwey yt my chyldryn have ther sustynaunce ther of. And after that don' & p'formed y wylne

desyre & pray my saide feoffees that of the sayde issuees p'fetes & revenues my doughtres be mayed be the dyscrecyon dysposycyon acorde & assent of my sayde executors or ij or iij of them. And yn the mene tyme y wylne & prey my sayd feoffees that the sayd issues & p'fatis y may have p^rstes doynge dyuyne s'uyce for my soole my fadre & my modre & my fadre yn lawe John Russell yn suche place as my bodye lythe & yn other aftre dysposycyon of my sayde executo^rs. Yn case that my goodys woll atteyn ther to Itm y woll and ordeyn that dyu'se goodys yn plate of selu' that som tyme were my fadre yn lawe John Russell & my modrys yn my dysposycyon pte ther of dysposed yn mynystred wher of pte resteth yn my warde wch pte so undysposed y woll that hyt be p's'ued & by the ou' syth of my brother Thomas Bromwyche & of my sayde executo^rs & the money ther of to be dysposed by my sayde brother aboue rehersed p'formed y p'y my sayde feoffees to make estate to eu'y of my sones that ys to wete Richard Thomas & Raufe of o yerly lyvelod pte of the sayde londes & ten'ntes that they were enfeoffed yn by me yn valewe yerly at the dyscrecyon of my sayde executo^rs other ij or iij of them to have & to holde to eu'y of my sayde sones for t'me of ther lyves, the remayndr ther of aft' the desees of eu'y of them to my sone John & to hys eyres to the wyche wylle ordeyn^ance & testament to execute y ordeyn & make my sayde wyfe my sone John, Hugh Schelwyke & the sayd p'son myn executores, preynge the sayd John Barre knyght to be ou'seer ther of.

[Proved before the subdean of Hereford 20 Feb. a° infrascript, & administration granted to Jane ux'i dict. Radulfi & Joh'i filio d'c'i Radulfi, with power reserved to grant adm'on to Hugh Schelewyk & Roger Carwardyn cap'lain, when they shall come in].

A copy of a deed in the possession of Mrs. Betton of Shrewsbury, relict of Richard Betton, Esq., of Great Berwick, which is thus endorsed :—

A license from Elizabeth Lyngham widow to John Snede to inclose lands. 7 Hen. VIII.

Memorand' that John Snede of wanteno^r in the Countie of Salop mad sute unto Syr John Lyngh^am knyghte & Dame Elizabeth his wiffe then being at their manor of Sutton in the countie of hereford, desyringe them in as moche as they were his naturall lord & lady that he myghte occupie and enjoye suche landes as his auncetrees had by gifte of there noble

progenitor's & auncetries as by there deede under seale of armes more plainlier dothe appere & there delyu'de his saide lorde & lady the saide deede desiringe them to see that he had righte according to his saide evidence & thereupon his saide lorde & lady dymytted him to John Breynton lerned in the law sendinge with hym the saide evidence & the said lerned man saide upon his lernynge that he ought to have & enjoye the saide landes accordinge to his saide dede. On this the said dame Elizabeth afar the decesse of her saide husbande, whose soule *J'hu p'don'*, comaunded david younge then being her stuarde & auditor upon the accompt takyn at the maner of aillmonstro at Michillmas the viith yere of kinge harry the viiith and Jeu^{a}n lloyde then beinge her bailiff that they shulde take a one upon the saide grounde & that they shulde see that her saide ten^{a}nte shulde have all they landes specified in his saide deede & accordinge to her comaundement the saide stuarde & bailiff vued the grounde the thridde daye of Marche the viith yere of kinge harry the viiith havinge the saide evidence redde at eu'y bounde & mere of the saide lande ande thereupon gave licen^{e} accordinge to the ladyis comaundeme^{ts} to close the said landes And in Wittnes whereof the saide Stuarde wrote this sedule for to remayne with saide evidence to the entent that other that hereafter shall come maye haue p'fitte knowlage of this that hath byn don in this behalff.

Written at wantono^{r} the daye & yere above saide

per me dauid younge,

(Hollins, Speed, Leland, Hereford Church, Brit. Bibl. Harl. 6726).

P. 2 of Wigmire hundred. Aylmestre, Qu y^{e} church viewed June 24, 1656.

On y^{e} south side of the chancell is a faire tombe of alabaster wth y^{e} figures of a man and a woman cutt in, about the verge of y^{e} stone are these wordes somewhat imperfect in their first order.

HIC JACIT DN'S IOH'ES LINGHEN ET DN'A ELIZABETH VXOR EIVS QVI QVIDEM IOH'ES OBIIT DIE MENSIS ET ELICABETH OBIIT I. DIE PVRIFICATIONIS SC'TE MARIE ANNO DNI M CCCCC XXII quorum animab' propitietur Deus. Amen.

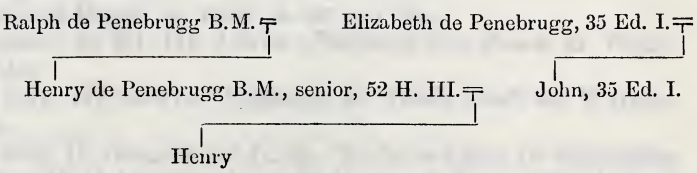
On y^{e} tombe is carved this cote (tricked in MS.).

(Index of ancient Charters xxvii., 158).

Wigmore. Indorsed, Roger Mortymer's Deede of xi. acres of land in Seephey and other land &c.

"Roger Mortimer: Supposed to be given by Mr. James Hill."

Sciant p'sentes & futuri Quod Ego Rog's de mortuo mari Dedi & concessi & hac p'senti carta mea confirmavi Domino Joh'i de lingeyne pro homagio & s'uico suo undecim acras prati de pastura mea in Scephey integre et incluse sunt p' illud fossatum quod eas undiq' circuit. Jungentes se in p'te Australi ad prata hominum meoru' de burtton. Dodi eciam & concessi eidem Joh'i totam illam terram q'm Willelmus Ventrarius Aliquo te'pore subtus castrum meum de Wiggemor' tenuit pro quodam cursu Aque h'ndo in escambio' resq' ad Vinarium meum p' mediam illam terram & terram quam Henricus culpus & petronilla uxor eius de predic'o Joh'e tenent pro ut rivulus Aquam ducit ad prod'c'm Vinarium meum. Tenend' & h'nd' de me & de heredib' meis sibi & herodibus suis u'l suis assignatis, libere quiete bene & inpace, integre & honorifice exceptis domib' religiosis & hideis Reddendo inde Annuatim michi & heredib' meis ipse & heredes sui u'l sui Assignati unum denariu' ad festum s'ci michaelis pro om'i seruico seculari exactione & demanda que de d'c'a terra exeunt u'l exire poterunt. Ego vero Rog's de Mortuo mar' & heredes mei p'd'cas undecim acra' una cum t'ra p'scipta p'dc'o Joh'i & heredibus suis u'l suis Assigniatis contra om'es homines & feminas inp'petuum Warentizabimus. Et quia volo q^{d} hec mea donac'o & concessio firma sit & stabilis & inp'petuum p'maneat huic p'senti scripto sigillum meum apposui. Hiis testib': D'no Briano de Brompton. D'no Henrico de mortuo mar'. D'no Symon de burlehe. D'no Joh'e de dunton. Henrico de Wlardeston. Rob'to Corbet. Willo le stork' tunc constabell' de Wygimor, & multis aliis.



WYTHYNGTON.

Pedes finiu' Com' Salop tempore R' Edwardi Tertii abbreviat'.

41 Edw. III. Will'us de Haulghton de med' man' de Wythynton & Longenore in tallio. n. 9.

18 Ric. IV. Joh'es Holgot & Beatrice ux' de medietat' man' de Wythyngton & Longenore up y^{e} were, ex Walt' Grey & Marg. n. 59.

22 Ric. II. Walt' Grey & Margaret' de mediet' man' de Wythyngton & Longelnore up y^{e} were hered' Walteri. n. 71.

Feodarium Hundredi de Bradford.

A° 24 E. I. penes Fr. Ch. de L.

Rob'tus de Haughton tenet vill' (de Wythinton) de Ric'o filio Alani per medietat' 1 feodi militis Gildabil'.

De Libertatibus.

idem, p. 25b up'ton ad membris

Gad'c de Berwick 1 feod. in Rodington et Sugesdon dimid' feodi.
Eton Constantine 1 feod'.
Marchamley 4tam p'tem 1 feo. milit'.
Withington dim' feodi.
Chetwinde duo feodu.

Claus. 41 Edw. III., m. 10, f. 189.

Jo'n Hert archeprest de Welcombe et Jo' de Eccleshale, clericus concedunt Will'mo de Haulghton unum annualem redd' vigint' librar' exeunt' de maner' de Claldewell sibi et hered' suis ea conditione quod pro tempore quod dom' Will'us et heredes sui tenent bene et in pace medietatem maneriorum de Longenore et Wythynton in Com' Salop' sans estre empledez per Margarete file et un des heires Nichole de Haulghton Chival' ou per les heires le dit Margaret per Briefe en la Court nostre Seigr le Roy per quel le dit William ou les heires de son corps engendrer perdount les dites moieties des dites maunours.

Esch. 11 Edw. I. Tho. de Halton, 30. Withington villa.

Esch. 32 Edw. I. Rob'rt Halghton 19. Withinton villa 1 Mess' 4 Caruc' dim' ter' et Upton secta curiae.

Salop' Com' sect'.

Bradford Hund' cu' redd' et car' ter' &c.

Escheat: 48 Ed. III. Joh'es Charleton d'us Powis m' Wythinton &c.

50 Edw. III. Joh'es Charleton de Powis chivr. 43. Wythinton &c.

21 Rich. II. Johanna ux' Jo. de Charleton Chivr. 13. Withinton.

3 Hen. IV. Joh'es Charleton de Powis. 40. Upton Withington.

9 Hen. V. Edws Charleton de Powis Chr. 53. Wythington.

Quat. *Esch.* 33 E. I. Hugo Prior de Magna Malverne. 112. Quatte 1 mess' 1 molend' et 1 acr' ter' ib'dem

35 Edw. I. Joh'es fil' Joh'is fil' Phylip'. *Licent' Alienand'.* 186. Quatte in dim'.

Esch. 8 Edw. III. Petr'us de Welles. 49. Quatt m'.

Esch. 16 Edw. III. Ric'us de Welles.

34 Edw. III. Quatt (vid. pago 66).

4 Hen. IV. Hugo Mortimer 28. Quatt m' chilesm'sche m' &c.
9 Hen. IV. Joh'es Cressy sen^r. 13. Quatt m' 1 pt.
6 Hen. VI. Petronilla ux' Hugonis mortymer. 5. Quatt m' 3 p^s
15 Rie. II. Will'us filius Henrici Mortym^r. 46. Qu. Quatte m' Ext'.
8 Hen. V. Egidius Fililode. 74. Quatt.
4 Hen. VI. Petronilla ux' Hugonis Mortym^r. 5. Quatt m' 3 p^s
13 Edw. IV. Joh'es Bruyn Ar'. 55. Quatford.

[The descent of the Longner estate in the family of Lingen, now Burton, may be thus traced. Robert Lingen, who succeeded his uncle, Thomas Burton of Longner, in 1730, assumed the surname of Burton by Act of Parliament in 1748. He was born in 1725, was High Sheriff of Salop 1763, married 1748 Anne, daughter of Thomas Hill of Tern Hall, and died in 1803. His eldest son,—Robert Burton, of Longner, High Sheriff 1804, died without issue in 1811, and was succeeded by his nephew,—Robert Burton (son of the Rev. Henry Burton, Vicar of Atcham), of Longner. He married first, Catherine, daughter of William Walcot of the Moor Hall; and secondly, Catherine, daughter of the Rev. Herbert Oakeley, D.D., of Oakeley, by whom he left at his death 14 Sept., 1860, a son,—Robert Lingen Burton, J.P. and D.L., of Longner. He married in 1861, Catherine Sophia, daughter of Richard Francis Cleaveland, Commander R.N., and died 17 November, 1880, leaving (with other issue) a son,—John Lingen Burton, now of Longner Hall. The Arms of Burton are: Per pale azure and purpure a cross engrailed or between four roses argent.

Longner is an insulated part of St. Chad's parish. The present house was rebuilt in 1806, and stands on an acclivity above the Severn, in an extensive and well-wooded park.—Ed.]

EXTRACTS FROM THE REGISTERS OF ATCHAM.

(From Geo. Morris's MS. Shropshire Registers).

1619, March 4. Mr. Thomas Burton bur.
1622, May 5. Mr. Francis Burton and Katherine Walton mar.
1622, June 4. Thomas, son of John Burton and Margaret, bapt.
1622, Oct. 4. Elizabeth, wife of Edward Burton, bur.
1629, June 16. John Burton bur.
1671, Nov. 11. Katherine, wife of Francis Burton, Esq., bur.; died 8th.
1673, July 31. Anne, dau. of Thomas Burton, Esq., and Elizabeth, bapt.
1675, July 13. Elizabeth, dau. of Thomas Burton, Esq., and Elizabeth, bapt.

1676, March 29. Catherine, dau. of Thomas Burton and Elizabeth, bapt.
1677, April 23. Robert, son of Thomas Burton and Elizabeth, bapt.
1679, Dec. 16. Katherine, dau. of Thomas Burton, Esq., of Longner, and Elizabeth, bapt.
1680, Jan. 13. Mary, dau. of Thomas Burton, Esq., of Longner, and Elizabeth, bapt.
1680, May 7. Francis Burton of Longner, Esq., buried.
1683, May 10. Thomas, son of Thomas Burton, Esq., of Longner, and Elizabeth, bapt.
1686, June 25. Edward, son of Thomas Burton, Esq., of Longner, and Elizabeth, bapt.
1691, June 9. Penelope, dau. of Thomas Burton, Esq., of Longner, and Elizabeth, bapt.
1691, July 13. Penelope, dau. of Thomas and Elizabeth Burton, bur.
1692, Feb. 14. Edward, son of Thomas Burton, Esq., of Longner, and Elizabeth, bur.
1693, Dec. 8. Mrs. Elizabeth Burton bur.
1695, Ap. 27. Thomas Burton, of Longner, Esq., buried.
1725, Feb. 21. Robert Burton of Longner, Esq., buried.
1753, Mar. 12. Thomas, son of Robert Burton of Longner and Ann, bapt.
1758, June 25. Ann, dau. of Robert Burton of Longner and Ann, bur.
1761, Oct. 16. Elizabeth, dau. of Robert Burton of Longner and Ann, bur.
1771, May 6. Anne, wife of Robert Burton, Esq., bur.
1775, Aug. 1. Mary, dau. of Robert Burton and Ann, his late wife, bur.

EXTRACTS FROM THE REGISTERS OF ST. CHAD, SHREWSBURY.

1637, Nov. 21. Thomas, son of Mr. Francis Burton and Catherine, bapt.
1682, Dec. 23. Mr. John Burton of Ellesmere parish, and Mrs. Ann Gittins of Baschurch, mar.
1730, Aug. 15. Thomas Burton, Esq., buried.
1735, Feb. 13. Thomas Burton of Longner, Esq., bur.
1755, Sept. 27. Henry, son of Robert Burton, Esq., and Anne, bapt.; born 24th.
1757, Jan. 1. Edward, son of Robert Burton, Esq., and Anne, bapt.

1758, June 12. Anne, dau. of Robert Burton, Esq., and Anne, bapt.; born May 30.
1759, Aug. 22. Elizabeth, dau. of Robert Burton, Esq., and Anne, bapt.; born 20th.
1760, Nov. 8. Anne, dau. of Robert Burton, Esq., and Anne, bapt.; born 6th.
1767, May 23. Anna Maria, dau. of Robert Burton, Esq., bapt.
1771, Ap. 24. John, son of Robert Burton, Esq., bapt.
1789, Dec. 17. Elizabeth, dau. of Edward Burton, Esq., and Dorothy, bapt.; born 15th.

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